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Picture SIMON HARRIS



BIRCHALL MAKES HISTORY

This is the moment that Adam Birchall sealed Dover Athletic's passage into the third round of the FA Cup for the first time in the club's history.

The in-form striker netted the 90th-minute penalty against League Two side Aldershot and sent the thousands of Whites fans packed into Crabble into pandemonium.

The last-minute goal was Birchall's second of the game, following on from a stunning 25-yard strike shortly before the hour mark.

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

DOVER ATHLETIC have reached the third round of the FA Cup for the first time in their history.

The Whites progressed to the stage at which the 'big boys' get involved by beating Aldershot Town 2-0 at Crabble on Saturday.

Star striker Adam Birchall continued his great form by grabbing a brace, which helped establish him as the top scorer in the knock-out competition with 11 goals so far, including the qualifying rounds.

The Blue Square Bet South team received a tough draw for the third round, being pitted away to high-flying League One outfit Huddersfield Town, who sit fifth in the division and made the third round with a thumping 6-0 victory over Macclesfield Town.

To get this far in the competition, the Whites have had to play six games, beating Erith Town, Cambridge City and Farnborough just to make it into the FA Cup's first-round draw.

Another highlight was the 2-0 victory at Priestfield, where they knocked out Gillingham and former bosses Andy Hessenthaler and Ian Hendon in one go.

Crabble was packed on Saturday with more than 4,000 fans who witnessed Dover's players making history.

Chairman Jim Parmenter admitted he was a little disappointed at drawing Huddersfield Town in the third round.

He said: "You hope to get one of the big six away and have a big pay-day."

"But Huddersfield are a big club, have a big 24,000 all-seater stadium, so we're looking forward to it."

• FOR MATCH REPORT AND MORE REACTION SEE PAGE 46

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 media

Former Sun editor plunges into the debate over port

■ BY STEVE LOADER

PORT managers at Dover and their controversial privatisation plans have come under heavy fire from outspoken columnist Kelvin Mackenzie.

The former editor of the Sun and now the national tabloid's most ferocious attack dog, responded vigorously after Port of Dover chief executive Bob Goldfield accused him of "talking bollocks" when he questioned the Dover scheme.

Mackenzie told readers on Thursday: "That may be true, Mr Goldfield, but I do know why you and your ho-hum management are so keen to get your hands on this business.

"Under the new ownership they will receive a shares package worth anything between £4 million to £16 million. Why don't you justify that payout in public, Mr Goldfield?"

Scandal

"Almost worse than that, the management has agreed to pay £100,000 of your money – remember you, the taxpayer, own this asset – to hire the PR company Bell Pottinger to lobby for the sale of this business."

He added that it was a scandal and Dover people should be protesting about it, adding that the port was "massively profitable" making £25 million on a £53 million turnover.

And his parting shot was a battle cry in favour of the rival People's Port proposal championed by local Conservative MP Charlie Elphicke: "The sooner the People's Port is owned by the people the better. And the great news is that when you get your hands on it, you can throw Mr Goldfield and his colleagues out of the window."

The Sun man's outburst follows an exclusive Business Week inter-



UNDER FIRE: Port chief Bob Goldfield

view in which Mr Goldfield strenuously denied suggestions that he and his managers were pushing the port sale so that they could walk away with a multi-million pound jackpot.

He said: "Chance would be a fine thing. There are no millions here."

He added that no member of port staff could hope for more than £300,000 via an initial share valuation and they would be unable to unlock that value for three years.

The privatisation scheme is currently stalled while the Department of Transport considers a dispute between the port and the ferry companies over their tariffs for 2010.

The companies are also due to meet Mr Goldfield and his team early next week to discuss the disputed fees for 2011, which the port wants to set above average inflation. It will be the first meeting of the Ferry Port Users' Group for several months and the operators continue to seethe about £60 million of their cash held by the harbour board as a levy towards £85 million of new berthing infrastructure they have called for.

Self-employed urged to return tax forms

HUNDREDS of self-employed tax credit claimants are being reminded to report their income or face the potentially serious consequences.

The 1,200 claimants in Dover are being urged by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to report their total income for the 2009/10 financial year by January 31, 2011.

Failing to provide correct details could lead to overpayment, while deliberate fraudulent information could lead to a criminal prosecution and imprisonment.

As part of a wider Government crackdown, HMRC and the Department for Work and Pensions published a strategy last month designed to tackle errors and fraud in benefits and tax credits.

Exchequer secretary to the Treasury, David Gauke, said: "There is too much error and fraud in our benefits and tax credit systems."

"Last month the Government therefore launched radical proposals to reduce the billions lost every year."

"We have to make every penny count – and that includes going after the cheats at every level."

"The self-employed have to do their bit by telling us promptly of any changes in their income estimates."

For more information, visit www.hmrc.gov.uk.

History of paper mill unfolds at screening

A DOCUMENTARY on Buckland Paper Mill has been shown at the film festival in Brighton.

The first seven minutes of the Watermark film were presented by Cine-City at the motion picture event.

The Dover Arts Development (DAD) aired the documentary which was one of 18 projects to be awarded grants by South Screen to make use of archive film footage.

All of these projects are being presented to the public as part of Archivaria – the Digital Film Archive Scheme.

Alongside the opening sequence to the Watermark documentary, DAD also showed a series of short films produced by Maidstone UCA film and video graduates Marley Showler, Robert Bernard, and third-year student Jamie Jenkinson.

All three filmmakers were at the story shop in Dover, where former Buckland Mill employees were interviewed for the film.

DAD director Joanna Jones said: "This is an exciting opportunity to present the project."

Strawbs star Dave's return success

SINGER-SONGWRITER and guitarist Dave Cousins, who fronts rock band The Strawbs, has staged a triumphant show in his hometown of Deal.

The Astor Theatre was the sold-out venue for his show which saw the band receive several standing ovations.

"Sometimes I can be apprehensive when playing Deal," Mr Cousins said before the concert.

"It may be that the night after I'm having a cup of coffee, reading the paper and someone who was there the previous night will remember me on stage waving my arms about."

"It can make me feel like two different people. But this time we have such a tight band and such great material I am really looking forward to it."



WELCOMED BACK: Dave Cousins wowed the audience during his concert at the Astor Theatre



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It's nice when 'The Boss' remembers who you are

■ BY NICK AMES

ROCK fan Lynne Weller had a close encounter outside a top London hotel with rock star Bruce Springsteen – who remembered her from an encounter in a shopping mall in New Jersey years earlier.

Lynne, 53, from Deal, has seen Springsteen play a total of 99 concerts and was staying at Claridge's while attending the premier of a film and CD called *The Promise*, recorded by him as part of sessions which produced his 1978 album, *Darkness on the Edge of Town*.

Springsteen was also at the event as part of a press conference and was staying at the same hotel.

Picture

Lynne had earlier spoken to him on the red carpet outside the event and seen him in the hotel.

She has also had her picture taken with the man known as 'The Boss' and members of his E Street Band on many occasions before.

"Bruce was actually on his way to catch a flight to another premier in Italy when I had my picture taken with him," she said.

"I asked him if it would be okay, he said 'yeah, sure' then spoke to a few other fans and then said 'goodbye darlin' and went off in his people carrier."

Springsteen, who played at the inauguration of US President Barack Obama and has won an Oscar, more than 20 Grammy awards and sold millions of albums worldwide was travel-



REUNITED: Lynne Weller with hero Bruce Springsteen, who remembered their first meeting in New Jersey

ling across Europe promoting his new release with the London trip forming one stop.

His hit albums include *Born to Run*, *The River*, *Born in the USA* and *The Rising*, while he also has recorded solo albums in a folk style as well as recording traditional American music as part of his Seeger Sessions band.

Lynne said she once saw Springsteen with his family in a shopping mall in Asbury Park, the musician's home for many years as a young man and close to his current home.

She said: "We had driven all across the USA,

my family and myself. We went from New York, up across the north of the country through Illinois before heading down south through Las Vegas, then onto California and back along the southern route through Texas and Louisiana before heading up the east coast and arriving in Bruce's home state of New Jersey.

"We were just in a shopping mall – my daughter wanted to buy stuff – when we saw Bruce. We spoke to him and he was great.

"Ever since that I say 'Asbury Park shopping mall' and he laughs and nods."

Crowd braves cold for climate concert

HUNDREDS of people braved the cold and the snow to attend a zero carbon concert in Deal.

The event was one of the world-wide Zero Carbon Concerts happening as the UN's Climate Change Conference meets in Mexico on Sunday, November 28.

Organiser Kieran Renihan said: "It was a fantastic day with all our stall holders, people doing talks and musicians making a great effort to be there and put Deal on the Zero Carbon Map.

James Tillett, of the Astor Community Theatre, which hosted the event, said: "It was just the sort of event the Astor is here for – the local community coming together for a serious and important concern but celebrating together and having a great time."

Throughout the event, the organisers were collecting money to help fund insulation for the Astor Community Theatre's roof, and by the end of the weekend, they had collected more than £150.

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Immigrant support group wins award

A DOVER charity has received an award for their work with immigrants at the detention centre.

The Dover Detainee Visitor Group has succeeded in the regional finals of the Mentoring and Befriending recognition awards 2010.

The national finals are going to be held in London on Wednesday, December 15.

The prize aims to recognise individuals and organisations that have made a difference to peoples' lives through mentoring and befriending services.

The visitor group was established in 2002 to befriending immigration detainees held indefinitely at the Dover Immigration Removal Centre.

Up to 60 volunteers visit the detention centre each week to show a friendly face to the immigrants that spend days, weeks and even years there.

The idea is to decrease isolation, increase motivation and contribute to reducing mental issues that could come as a consequence of detention.

Its work is inspired by a respect for all humans irrespective of their immigration status, within its frame of being a non-political and a non-campaigning charity.

The awards are part of a national campaign called Supporting Life's Journeys to celebrate and support the many individuals and organisations who help to address poverty and social exclusion through mentoring and befriending.

Trust tops Dr Foster healthcare survey

PATIENTS living in east Kent get the best care in the country, according to a survey of the NHS.

The East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the William Harvey in Ashford, Kent and Canterbury, the QEQM in Margate, Buckland in Dover, and the Royal Victoria, Folkestone, came top of the Dr Foster survey.

The study, backed by Imperial College London and the Department of Health, measures the performance of NHS trusts and hospitals around the country.

Each year it looks at areas of patient care, such as preventing premature death, quality of life for people with long-term conditions and recovery from ill health or surgery. It also measures patients' experiences of their care.

One of the key areas the survey looked at is what is known as the Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratio (HSMR).

This is a broad measure across all activities of a hospital where the risk of death is significant. The average score for hospitals is 100. The East Kent Trust was given a score of 79, one of the lowest in the country.

Nineteen trusts around the coun-

try had a score higher than 100, meaning the death rate was higher than expected. Other areas of healthcare considered a good indicator of a hospital's performance include stroke care, orthopaedics, urology and patient safety.

The report said the trust had performed well across all criteria, especially as it was one of the largest in the country, serving 750,000 people.

It also praised it for employing new technology such as Telemedicine, which now meant people had a round-the-clock service.

Innovations

It also had a rapid response for scans when needed by patients and had introduced innovations such as the specialist heart attack centre at the William Harvey.

Stuart Bain, chief executive of the trust, said: "The success can be put down to a combination of high ambition by the board, good planning, and the dedication of the 7,000 staff who always go the extra mile.

"Safety and effectiveness have been the key drivers in directing investment in service change and this is reflected in our low HSMR and good infection prevention rates."

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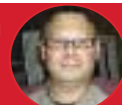


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Concert to help raise cash for legend's statue

■ BY NICK AMES

PLANS are under way for a fund-raising concert to bring in cash for the proposed Sir Norman Wisdom statue which fans of the comedy legend want to put up in Deal High Street.

Jez Anderson, who is the man behind the plan, says he has been overwhelmed by the level of support for his idea.

About 1,000 people are currently members of the internet site promoting the statue and more than 600 have signed a petition in favour of it.

Mr Anderson is now in discussion with Sir Norman's agent, Johnny Man, about the fund-raising show, with the Astor Theatre a possible venue.

"He represents people like Max Bygraves and – funnily enough – the country's leading Norman Wisdom impersonator," said Mr Anderson who runs Play It in King Street.

"I have also been in touch with musician Rick Wakeman who knew Sir Norman well, he said he would like to be at the unveiling."

Mr Anderson is a long-term fan of Norman, who he met on many occasions.

The comedy star was bought up in a Deal children's home and had a lifelong affection for the town, backing local good causes.



SHOWING WISDOM: Jez Anderson

"That is why I want him to be recognised," said Mr Anderson.

"I would also like people to come into my shop with their memories of meeting him and any pictures they may have. My plan is then to compile a book showing how Norman was important to local people."

Sculptor Graham Ibbeson, whose work Sir Norman admired, has said he would like to design the likeness after completing one of Eric Morecambe and of Benny Hill. The cost is expected to be in the region of £55,000.



Shelley jumps for charity

MODEL mum Shelley Martin raised more than £700 to help blind youngsters like her eldest son by jumping from a plane.

It was Shelley's life time ambition to do a parachute jump and the Deal model is keen to do more charity work.

The mother of three went to Headcorn Airfield near Maidstone for the tandem jump and on the ground waiting for her was 11-year-old Jordan, who suffers from Septo Optic Nerve Displasia.

Shelley jumped from 1,200 feet and although it was freezing on the way down she said it was an amazing experience.

As a result the charity 4 sight has picked up a bonus as the cash is rolling in from well wishers.

An elated Shelley said: "It was the most fantastic experience of my life and it was made even better because I was helping a worthwhile charity."

"I would definitely want to continue raising money for different small charities as I feel overlooked."

Daredevil Shelley is looking for her next charity project.

She said: "Bring on the next challenge. Any ideas?"

NEWS IN BRIEF

What a rich show of light

HUNDREDS of people descended on Dover town centre to be part of the Christmas Light Switch on Extravaganza.

Stars from the Marlowe Theatre's production of Robin Hood were in town to flick the switch and illuminate proceedings.

Cbeebies presenter Sid Sloane, who is playing Robin Hood in the pantomime, was joined by Katie Birtill, who plays Maid Marian, and Alan Mehdizadeh, who is Friar Tuck.

The big switch-on was the climax of a day of events on Saturday.

The reindeer close to Market Square proved to be a real hit with adults and children alike, while fairground stalls running up Biggin Street and Ice Queen & Jack Frost Roller Skaters also entertained the crowds.

Some people really got into the party spirit by turning up to the event in fancy-dress, with Darth Vader, Spiderman and Danger Mouse all making an appearance.

Park and fly to the golf

THE Open Championship has partnered up with PremiAir, executive helicopter charter company, to offer golf fans airborne transportation to one of the world's greatest sporting events.

Established more than 30 years ago, PremiAir is the largest operator of executive helicopters in the UK with six bases located across the south of England.

Typical flight times to Royal St George's range from 40 minutes from the London area and 20 minutes from Biggin Hill airport, where they will offer a park-and-fly service.

Fire stations may close

A REVIEW of fire services across the county could mean closing services in Deal and Sandwich.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service has produced a document entitled Towards 2020 Integrated Risk Management Plan which outlines ideas on reform.

It states that Deal is one of the least busy stations in the county with an incident needing attention every 26 hours. The number of call outs recorded for Sandwich is also calculated as being below average.

Services at Aylesham and Eastry are also set to come under the microscope

See the report at www.kent.fire-uk.org.

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Snow, music and Santa!

There's so much to see at County Square, Ashford.

Magical woodland

The children will be enthralled to see the magical woodland display with its elves cottage and delightful animated characters, located in the lower mall.

Meet Santa!

Take a visit to meet Santa in Debenhams throughout the seasonal period. Check our website or with Debenhams for dates and times.

Christmas music

Every weekend during December a variety of choirs will be performing round the Christmas tree.

Snow Globe Fun!

For one weekend only on 4th and 5th December, you'll see a Giant Snow Globe in the main square. Bring your friends or family along, step inside and have a picture taken in the snow! The 6x9 photo, which will cost £10, will be housed in a custom frame and you can have extra copies at a reduced rate. It's a great present idea!



To find out more about Christmas at County Square visit
www.countysquashoppingcentre.com

De Haan CAB boost

THE Citizens Advice Bureau has received a cash boost to extend its phone helplines. The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust donated £2,000 to help meet the costs of providing new telephone and computer equipment used to provide advice on debt, benefits, tax and other matters.

Jan Stewart of Dover, Deal and District CAB said: "We are receiving more and more demand for advice services, particularly from people in rural areas, the house-bound and those with young families. The CAB relies on donations and we are grateful to the trust for this contribution."

The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust welcomes new applications from community groups or institutions with charitable aims in advancing education, the arts, culture and heritage; regeneration of areas of historic importance for the community, particularly in east Kent; community development; health and welfare of older people; and amateur sport.

For more information, email Emma Long on emma.long@strandhouse.org.

Making more friends

THE Dover Detainee Visitor Group has been recognised in the regional finals of the Mentoring and Befriending Recognition Awards 2010.

These awards commend individuals and organisations that have made a difference to people's lives through assistance in important areas.

The group was established in 2002 to befriending detainees held indefinitely at the Dover Immigration Removal Centre.

About 60 volunteers go to the centre on a weekly basis to show a friendly face to immigrants held there.

The aim is to cut isolation, increase motivation and reduce mental-health problems as a consequence of detention.

Very healthy outcome for Julia and the team

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

A HEALTHY-lifestyle magazine for eastern and coastal Kent has been awarded a top prize.

NHS-backed publication Your Health gained best-magazine title at the Chartered Institute of Public Relations PRide Awards.

The event, held at Brighton Metropole, recognises public-relations success and achievement.

The team that researches and creates the magazine was in Sussex to collect the trophy.

CIPR chairwoman Lisa Bradley said: "The judges said Your Health is a professional publication which clearly meets the needs of the audience it targets in eastern and coastal Kent."

"The photography, layout and content are clear and consistent and deliver an engaging read when combined with real-life stories."

"Feedback from residents shows they value the upbeat and contemporary approach to health promotion and disease prevention."

"The CIPR PRide Awards recognise and reward the PR profession across the UK. They help to celebrate the importance of demonstrating the value of what we do and the positive impact this profession has on all aspects of business."

"Being named a PRide Award winner is a fantastic achievement and I congratulate this year's winners."

Your Health editor Julia Rogers said: "It was



WINNING SMILES: From left, Jo Treharne, Hayley Eversfield, Julia Rogers and Glynis Alexander are the Your Health team

fabulous to be recognised for our hard work in putting together the magazine.

"The purpose of the publication is to provide local people with up-to-date information, tips and support to improve their health and well-

being and to prevent the onset of long-term conditions. We have received excellent feedback from readers, but to have the spotlight on us from the CIPR is a real morale boost for the team at a time of massive change in the NHS."

Kent Reliance Building Society & OneSavings Plc

Notice under Paragraph 7 of Schedule 17 to the Building Societies Act 1986 (as modified by the Mutual Societies (Transfers) Orders 2009 made under Section 3 of the Building Societies (Funding) and Mutual Societies (Transfers) Act 2007).

Notice is hereby given that Kent Reliance Building Society, registered number 206038, whose principal office is at Reliance House, Sun Pier, Chatham, Kent ME4 4ET, desires to transfer its business to OneSavings Plc and that the Society has applied to the Financial Services Authority (FSA) to confirm the transfer.

Any interested party may make written representations to the FSA and/or give notice of intention to make oral representations to the FSA with respect to the application. Written representations or notices of a person's intention to make oral representations at a hearing should be received by The Financial Services Authority, Kent Reliance Building Society Representations, Kent Reliance Team, 11th Floor, 25 The North Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HS, marked 'Kent Reliance Building Society Representations' or by e-mail to krbsrepresentations@fsa.gov.uk on or before 15 December 2010. If notice is given of oral representations these will be heard by the FSA at a meeting expected to be held on 6 January 2011, at a time and place to be determined by the FSA.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

NICK SPURRIER



Q Tell us a little about yourself

A I was born in London in 1946, brought up in Shropshire and educated at Shrewsbury School, which I left in minor disgrace at 17 without any A-levels. I moved to London and, after a series of awful jobs, passed sufficient A-levels to do a degree in history at the London School of Economics, where I was taught partly by David Starkey. I then moved to Canterbury and finally Folkestone. I have spent the last 30 years selling second-hand books, mainly on politics, economics and history, to a large extent to Japanese academics.

Q How did you first become interested in archaeology and what other projects have you been involved in?

A This is the first time I have taken part in an archaeological dig as my interests are medieval economic history and modern social history, though I have been involved with the Folkestone People's History Centre from its inception. However, from the start of the dig at the Roman Villa, I have been captivated by the process, with its alternate hard digging and meticulous trowelling. Finding anything is exciting – a tile, a piece of pottery, animal bone or a tiny fragment of painted Roman plaster.

Q Tell us about the history of the Roman Villa site, and what is the significance of this latest dig?

A The villa was first revealed in 1924 by Winbolt and left open. It was filled in after

the Second World War and partially re-excavated in 1989. Neither of these excavations looked for previous settlement on the site before the Claudian (Roman) invasion in AD43. This year we have dug through the floors of the villa rooms and the archaeology suggests intermittent occupation of the site going back to around 5000BC.

Q What do you think of the historical, cultural and social life of Shepway?

A Folkestone is full of life, with history, art and action groups formed all the time. While the Creative Foundation is transforming the east of the town with the University Centre, Quarterhouse, refurbished shops, restaurants, cafés and artists' studios, they have also acted as a catalyst for other activities like the ska music festival which, together with the book festival and the Triennial, bring more people into Folkestone.

While many towns are stagnating, building continues in The Old High Street and Tontine Street and, with the construction of two restaurants on The Stade, redevelopment of the harbour has started. Little of this would have been possible without Roger De Haan. I am optimistic about the future of Folkestone.

Q Where can people find out more about the Folkestone Unearthed project?

A To take part as a volunteer either digging, washing finds or helping with outreach,

please call 01303 850614. During the winter, 65 Tontine Street, given rent-free by the Creative Foundation as part of its community programme, will be open as a visitor centre and used to sort and classify finds from the villa dig. There was recently an exhibition of the finds at the Folkestone Book Festival.

Q What do you hope could be unearthed in or around the town in future?

A The whole area of East Cliff could be investigated, as could accessible parts of The Bayle. It is intended over the next few months to dig test pits in gardens on East Cliff and in The Bayle. Though a number of residents have offered their gardens for investigation, we are still looking for others.

Q Tell us something people don't tend to know about you

A In 1974 with no job in prospect, I hitchhiked around Europe for two months and then spent four months on a kibbutz, just north of Gaza. I then set out for Africa on my own. Hitching mainly but occasionally using trains and once a riverboat, I made my way through Europe to Italy, ferry to Tunisia, west to Algeria, then south through the Sahara to Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Zaire (now Congo), Zambia, Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia), Mozambique and Malawi. When I recall this, I frighten myself as I am now nervous travelling on a ferry.

Q & A

The bookseller and archaeology fan speaks to **James Alexandre** about the latest finds at the Folkestone Roman Villa site, what the future holds for the town and his hitch-hiking days around Europe and Africa

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It's boom time for the Dungeness star turns

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

THE bitterns of Dungeness are delighting visitors to the RSPB reserve and, as the early winter tightens its grip, it is expected that more will arrive.

The increased area of reedbed, along with healthy fish stocks, are proving ideal for the birds, with Denge Marsh and the Hanson-ARC pit being the best places to see them.

RSPB site manager Bob Gomes said: "Bitterns are very secretive birds so can be hard to spot. We know we have at least three present at the moment and as the weather turns colder we expect to see more."

Only one or two birds were seen each winter from 1967-2002, but from then on numbers increased to three or more.

The highest number recorded was eight in January 2009, when icy conditions forced birds out into the open to feed, while last winter five birds were noted.

Mr Gomes said: "When we started our bittern safaris a few years ago the chances of seeing one were slim, although we had fun looking."

"Now birds are seen more often than not on these events, reflecting increasing numbers."

"In previous years they always left for Europe



AT RISK:

The secretive bittern is becoming a regular sight at Dungeness, and numbers are rising

to breed. To have confirmed breeding on the reserve this year was a great reward for all the work we have carried out."

The birds have gone from strength to strength after work was carried out to improve the reserve's reedbed habitat.

The first booming male was recorded last year and this summer saw the first confirmed breeding after a female was showing classic feeding behaviour.

During the last century the UK's bittern population suffered a dramatic decline, largely due to the drainage of reedbeds.

Its very small population makes the bittern a Red List species, one of the most threatened in the UK.

Mr Gomes said: "This is a great time of year to visit Dungeness, with lots of birds coming over to spend the winter months here."

"It highlights the importance of protecting places like Dungeness."

He said an expanded development at nearby Lydd airport could threaten the bittern and other rare birds at the reserve.

The airport plans have been called in for a public inquiry, due to start in February 2011.



OUR CHOICE: Charlie Elphicke, Dover mayor Sue Jones and deputy Deal mayor Marlene Burnham

Abigail has designs on MP's Christmas

THE Mayor of Dover and Deputy Mayor of Deal have chosen the Christmas-card design that will be used by the towns' MP Charlie Elphicke

The design will be sent to members of the Government, fellow MPs and local dignitaries this year.

In June, Mr Elphicke invited every primary school in Dover and Deal to enter a competition to design his Christmas card.

The winner was judged to be 'Christmas over Dover and Deal' by eight-year-old Abigail Coles, from Whitfield and Aspen School.

Mr Elphicke said: "I was amazed at how many great entries were sent in."

"It just goes to show how much creative talent we have in our local schools."

"I look forward to having Abigail and her family for tea at the House of Commons to celebrate her first prize."

The runners-up were George Cunningham, in year six at Vale View School; Myles Britton, aged 10, from Dover College; and Kiah Clay, 10, from Whitfield and Aspen School.

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GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Two new neighbourhood officers are on the beat in Lyminge and the surrounding villages. PCSO Laura Zazo and PC Damon Warren cover the wards of Tolsford and North Downs West, which includes Etchinghill, Newington, Postling and Sellindge.

Laura Zazo transferred to Shepway, having served three years as a PCSO in Ashford. PC Warren was a response officer in Folkestone for seven years before being appointed to his new post.

The duo have already been busy in Lyminge dealing with reports of damage to the skate park, antisocial behaviour, graffiti and young people drinking alcohol in public.

Their high-visibility patrols have already paid off, leading to two arrests, including one for damage and another for public-order offences. A 16-year-old arrested has bail conditions ordering him not to enter the village. PCSO Zazo and PC Warren will be holding regular public meetings and drop-in surgeries so villagers can talk to them and raise any issues. Details can be found on www.kent.police.uk.

They are part of the Shepway West neighbourhood team and can be contacted on 01233 896496; or email shepwaywest.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk.

Cannabis-conspiracy suspect is sought

A NEW Romney man suspected of trying to help smuggle cannabis into the country is being sought by police.

Andrew Michael Collins, right, is wanted by the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) in relation to a conspiracy to import large consignments of the Class B drug into the UK between April and May this year.



It is thought he may still be in Kent but is also known to frequent south-west London.

Any sightings or information about Mr Collins's whereabouts can be reported to SOCA on 0870 268 6127, the free and anonymous Crimestoppers line on 0800 555111, or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Second apology from KCC leader Carter after Ofsted mauling

THE Tory leader of Kent County Council has admitted being unaware of how poorly run its child protection service is.

Paul Carter, County Hall's most senior politician, was forced to issue an apology after a damning Ofsted report rated the safeguarding and looked-after children services at KCC as "inadequate".

Areas of concern raised after a two-week inspection include the management and supervision of services, low educational attainment of looked-after children, high number of cases not receiving quality assessments, and social workers with high case-loads.

Cllr Carter admitted he only now appreciated the full scale of the problem.

"We've got some poor management, which the report highlights," he said. "The service is under pressure, but the report highlights issues that are more severe than I would otherwise have been aware of."

"For example, the number of corners having to be cut to keep their heads above water, and the paperwork not being kept in order or completed as it should be."

"We've got to make sure staff are appropriately managed and tasked because there's an element of people being overwhelmed here."

Asked if he could have recognised the failings earlier, Cllr Carter said: "Hindsight is always invaluable, but none of the joint boards we've put together have raised the alarm in the way Ofsted has."

The social-work industry has faced intense scrutiny since the failings that led to the death of 17-month-old Baby P in Haringey, north London, were first made public in November 2008.

Struggled

Cllr Carter admitted KCC had struggled to cope with the increased number of referrals made since that time, which average about 2,000 a month, including about 180 a week in Thanet alone.

The county also has the added responsibility of 900 asylum-seeking children as well as about 1,500 looked-after youngsters placed in Kent by other authorities.

"It puts enormous pressure on all our services," said Cllr Carter. "We've been lobbying Government and telling them enough is enough. Other councils must start placing vulnerable young people closer to their parental homes. We've made some progress, but the legislation needs to be changed and tightened up."

Cllr Carter said it was also proving difficult

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

to attract the best social-workers since the Baby P tragedy. He said: "We've recruited from overseas – particularly the United States and Canada – but they have particular training needs in order for them to become the top social-workers in the system."

"We are dependent on new staff when the preference would be for good experienced staff. That counts enormously, but they're just not around any more."

"It's not a profession that's popular among graduates. I don't think critical statements from the national media are helping recruitment into what is a very challenging job."

The Ofsted inspection was carried out two months after the watchdog warned that children were at risk of harm due to inadequate and late assessments.

Warning

And earlier this year the authority was forced to issue a public apology when it emerged an inexperienced social-worker failed to act on a warning about Tunbridge Wells resident Christopher Sellman, who went on to kill his baby daughter.

The new report also highlights concerns about access to child and adolescent mental-health services, a high number of "inappropriate" referrals from other agencies, and insufficient use of early-intervention support.

A steering group has been established to oversee immediate action and will provide quarterly updates. It is chaired by the cabinet member for children, Sarah Hohler, and includes cross-party members, senior managers, partners from the NHS and police, and frontline managers and staff.

The 12 district-based social-care teams and all other agencies also have plans in place to enhance specific areas of their service.

"There's no denial and I would like to apologise to the young people and families who haven't had the quality of service that should be expected of us," said Cllr Carter.

"We've got to make sure we have well-trained, competent staff with the right support, and that the checks and balances are carried out effectively."

"Ofsted will be back in a year's time and I have every confidence we will have made substantial improvements by then, although I suspect we will need outside help."

"We will carry out a root-and-branch review of everything to do with our looked-after children and I am sure there will be a substantial change over the next 12 months."



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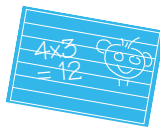
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BREAK TIME

Brockhill looks back on an eventful year

STUDENTS, staff, families and friends came together for an evening of celebration at The Saga Pavillion for Brockhill Park Performing Arts College's annual prizegiving.

The Saltwood school's principal Sonette Schwartz opened proceedings with the famous quote "It has been the best of times, it has been the worst of times", which summed up the past year following the passing of two beloved teachers.

Drama teacher Peter Catmull lost his fight with cancer in February after working at Brockhill for 37 years and head of maths Gordon Starkey died suddenly this year. Both were remembered with a minute's silence.

First-choice

But the school also had much to celebrate, including its best-ever GCSE exam results and best ever A-level exam results. Every A-level student got a place at their first-choice university.

Mrs Schwartz spoke about the many achievements and events that the school had been part of, and students were presented with subject awards as well as those for achievement.

The prestigious Student Award, voted for by the sixth-formers themselves, went to the popular Luke Shoveller; the Service To The School award was presented to Colette Bentley for unstinting dedication to dance; the Principal's Prize went to two students, Jake Spearpoint for his sporting excellence in golf and Katie Walker for her work with the school's farm and Young Farmers Club.

Guests were treated to an array of performances showcasing the school's Performing Arts specialism.

Girls have what it takes to win the argument

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

FOLKESTONE School For Girls played host to and won the local qualifying rounds of a national debating competition.

The Debating Matters event, sponsored by the Institute Of Ideas and Pfizer Science, takes place every year and pits students from across the country against each other in a test of their debating and public-speaking skills.

Evelyn Fleming and Dani O'Connor represented FSG in the first round of the knock-out competition against Dover Grammar School For Girls. The subject of the debate was whether universities should ban the presence of extremist political and religious groups from their campuses.

Screening

The FSG girls argued convincingly that universities are a place of free thought, where ideas should be openly and actively challenged, and won the debate handsomely.

Harvey Grammar was involved in the same competition and came up against the Bennett Memorial Diocesan School from Tonbridge, winning a debate on the issue of genetic screening, with some well-researched and clearly-presented views on the medical case for banning this controversial practice.

The final was a Folkestone derby, with FSG against their old rivals from Harvey.

Deputy head girl Fern Champion and Natalie Preston represented the girls' school in a tense round on the theme of whether sports



DEBATE WINNERS: The Folkestone School For Girls debating team beat old rivals Harvey Grammar in a tight contest

people should act as role models. Despite a confident performance from the boys, Fern and Natalie responded well to close questioning from the judges and audience and eventually won the debate.

It was a dramatic ending to the evening, when the judges wrongly announced Harvey as victors before quickly realising their mistake and announcing Folkestone School For Girls as the actual final winners.

The team will now go through to the region-

al finals, to be held in Tonbridge in the New Year.

The school society also took part in a local-schools challenge in Canterbury organised by the Historical Association, in which it debated who was the most significant woman in British history.

Alice Boorman and Fern Champion have also won an online debate on the theme of cybernet security organised by Debating Matters.

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YOUR LETTERS



BURNING BRIGHT: Last week's front page

Seeing the light over port's orange glow

Thank goodness someone has at last spoken up about light pollution.

Undoubtedly, Dover Harbour Board is the biggest culprit, but the rest of the town is not far behind.

It has been known for years how to design a street-light that throws light down on to the road surface and not out into space or into the eyes of drivers.

All these techniques were developed years ago for stage-lighting in theatres.

Why has it taken so long to apply these designs for use in the open air? Laziness, I suspect.

There is, in any case, far too much street-lighting, not just here but across the country, with consequent wastage.

At least 50 per cent of the street-lights in residential areas should be switched off at midnight, saving considerable amounts of money.

Laurence C Brooks, former lighting technician Whitfield

Why are we picking up tab for toilets?

As my fellow councillors will know, I am unconvinced by the arguments for Deal Town Council taking on the costs of managing and maintaining the town's toilets on behalf of Dover District Council.

As a town council, we are under no obligation to take on the toilet contract and, indeed, the costs for this year would have already been included in Dover District Council's council-tax charge, yet Deal Town Council is expected to pay the costs from its precept. This is double-rating.

Within the costings for the toilet contract I understand that this council is being expected to pick up the costs of the council tax payable on five toilets, yet there is no indication that the properties are to be transferred to this council.

We are not renting or purchasing the toilets, so why is this council being asked to pay for the council tax?

The town council need to be assured that the only costs it is being asked to pick up are for the contract and do not include any element for council-tax charges,

your blogger

We don't really need to listen to Labour leader Ed Miliband for four years, says Gary Wright



LABOUR leader Ed Miliband chose Gillingham as the place to convince the country he is the man who can build a party people will want to vote for again.

I was surprised he chose Kent. No one could see the county as a Labour stronghold, but by the same token it's counties like Kent where he will have to convince people he has something to offer.

At the moment it really doesn't matter what Labour says it would do on this, or what its policy is on that – the party isn't in power, so why should anyone listen?

Red, as he's affectionately known, has other problems, too. The mess inherited by David Cameron and Nick Clegg was bigger than anyone could have imagined. So, criticism by Ed and his shadow cabinet is easily overcome: Labour would have had to do the same, or it's Labour's fault anyway.

My gut feeling is the party is over-reacting to its general election defeat with its new-found taste for humble pie, admissions of how terrible and arrogant it became and beating itself up to win our love again.

It's pretty simple, really.

Firstly, people had had enough of Gordon Brown. Despite being the man who found a way through the banking crisis for world leaders, he was also responsible for getting Britain too deeply into the mess in the run-up to it. Plus he wasn't good on telly and seemed a bit of an angry bully off it.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above.

If you want to be the next blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor.

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DDC internal recharges, insurances and/or any other costs which do not relate specifically to the contract.

I have seen no evidence to suggest that we should be using Deal council-taxpayers' money to bail out Dover District Council for the mismanagement of its affairs.

I also understand that Dover Town Council is consulting on whether it should take on a contract for the maintenance of the toilets in its area and, though other parish councils may have taken on the toilets in their areas, that is not an argument for Deal to do so.

**Cllr Brian Henderson (Labour)
Deal Town Council**

Fence explanation is not good enough

Once again, Mike Eddy, writing on behalf of Deal Maritime And Local History Museum trustees, fails to give a credible answer as to the purpose of the controversial fence (last week's letters).

It may be that there has been some interference with exhibits for which they suspect the neighbour, but the fence has an unlocked gate that the neighbour can freely use to access the museum yard, as she is entitled to do in exercise of her right of way across it.

Wasting charity money on a fence that does nothing to improve security inevitably raises concerns about competence or motive.

So, please, can we have a

believable answer to dispel the public outrage?

**Peter Jull
Deal**

No truck with MP's distasteful opinions

I found MP Roger Gale's views about foreign trucks using our roads very distasteful.

Do British truckers run back from Europe with empty fuel tanks so they can buy some of the costliest diesel in Europe?

No they do not, so why should foreign vehicles feel obliged to do so?

Only greedy successive British governments have maintained the high fuel taxation and put our own haulage industry at a commercial disadvantage.

Charging foreign vehicles to use our roads, of course they would not reciprocate!

Are British right-hand-drive vehicles more accident-prone abroad – if so, what is Mr Gale doing about this?

Or does that not matter as there are no votes in it for him?

Foreign vehicles may cause more accidents *pro rata* than English vehicles, but could that be more down to British drivers not observing (foreign number plate, sign writing on truck etc) that it is a non-British vehicle and being a bit more cautious.

He also suggests that foreign drivers be detained until their case comes to court and insurance

claims settled – that could take months or years.

Would he suggest similar imprisonment for British drivers abroad?

Perhaps it would be more helpful if Mr Gale would put some effort into providing more parking places with decent facilities – after all, it is governments that have decided drivers' fixed driving/rest periods.

They may not speak our language, but they are just normal people with families, just trying to do a job of work, and should be treated with common decency as any person should be.

**Terry Hudson
by email**

ID cards battle over but the war goes on

ID cards are being scrapped and with them the National Identity Register and the ContactPoint Children's database – a success for NO2ID, and I would like to publicly thank all those who supported and helped with our campaign – not just in my own branch but across east and mid-Kent.

So, is it all over? No, even though we may no longer be out on the streets with our stalls.

A bureaucratic obsession with ID and information-sharing goes on, and so do we.

Your finances, your travel by plane or car, who you call and email, soon your medical records... all are starting to be captured and made available for 'mining'.

A 2009 report looked at 46 big Government database projects. It found that more than half damage personal privacy or create other risks.

Only two of those have since been cancelled.

We define the Database State as the trend to manage society by collecting data, mass surveillance... an authoritarian oversight of all aspects of our lives.

NO2ID continues to campaign against state identity-management and the abuse of personal information, and for individual control of what is private.

Our current campaigns concern a proposed centralised electoral register with local-authority powers to cross-match data to track those who don't register; medical confidentiality and the NHS Spine (not yet rolled out in Kent but coming); tracking travellers through e-passports and e-borders; abuse of DNA records; snooping on internet and telephone use; and police logging of all car journeys using ANPR cameras.

Government needs information to work, but it always takes and uses much more than it needs.

All squeeze facts out of you and force others to provide more. Just for the file.

You may have to deal with Government, but you can't say what it can do with that file.

In a few years it has become normal to be asked to provide ID, proof of address or other details by people who don't need them.

More is gathered officially, cross-checked, passed on – even to other countries.

You should have the right to decide who knows what about you. 'We know where you live' is an old threat.

The Database State means state control of personal identity – with or without ID cards.

**Ian Taylor
NO2ID coordinator (Dover)**

Students could pay a big price for online TV

Now Freshers Week is over and thousands of students are settling into their studies, TV Licensing is issuing a reminder to students to ensure that they are correctly licensed if they watch TV online.

It's now far more common to own a laptop/PC in university halls than a traditional television set.

In fact, research suggests that of the 84 per cent of students in halls who use their laptop or PC to watch TV online, 59 per cent watch live television as it is broadcast and so require a TV licence.

It is important that students are aware they need a licence, as it's not worth risking a prosecution and fine of up to £1,000.

The law is simple – if you watch or record programmes online at the same time as they are shown on television, you need a TV licence.

For more information, visit www.tvlicensing.co.uk/studentinfo or phone 0300 790 6090.

**Jon Shaw
TV Licensing**

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of December until
Christmas Eve



Hiding to nothing with sniffer dog

A DOG has sniffed out stowaways attempting to cross the Channel and enter the UK through Dover.

Four would-be illegal immigrants were found on Saturday, November 13, by UK Border Agency officials in Calais after they were alerted by their sniffer dog.

A search of the Turkey-registered lorry found four Eritreans – two men and two women – hiding in the trailer.

The following day, officers in Coquelles searched a Polish lorry bound for Dover after discovering that it was not secured properly. Inside they found four Vietnamese and three Iranians.

Carole Upshall, the UK Border Agency's director for European operations, said: "Finds such as this highlight the determination and expertise required to stay one step ahead of illegal immigration."

"In 2009 we stopped more than 29,000 individual attempts to cross the English Channel illegally and searched in excess of a million vehicles."

Late-night assault

A MAN required hospital treatment for facial injuries after he was attacked with a bottle outside a bar in Bench Street, Dover.

The assault took place just after midnight on Sunday, November 7, in the smoking area at Funky Monkey.

The 27-year-old victim suffered a cut lip and swelling to his jaw and cheek and needed stitches.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to phone PC Lucy Hazelden on 01304 218181 or Crime-stoppers on 0800 555111.

County Hall wants extra £25m in savings 'shock'

■ BY MARIJKE COX

FINANCE chiefs at County Hall have revealed public services will come under even more pressure with an additional £25 million needed in savings over the next two years.

The authority had initially forecast a £136m budget shortfall for 2011-13, but now predictions of Government grant reductions combined with additional spending pressures have pushed the figure up to more than £161m.

The amount forms part of the £340m savings needed at Kent County Council over the next four years. It is likely to mean that residents are asked to pay for some services they previously received for free.

Shortfall

Authority bosses had not expected such a large shortfall in the first two years after councils nationwide had been told to expect Government grant cuts of 7 per cent every year for the next four years.

KCC cabinet member for finance John Simmonds said the higher percentages came as a shock after lower predictions were announced at a KCC meeting in October.

"What took us by surprise was we were expecting a grant reduction of 7.25 per cent in the first year, but it is just over 10.1 per cent for 2011-12," he said.

"For 2012-13 it is 8.6 per cent; in the third

year 3.3 per cent; and then 7.9 per cent. It puts pressure on us because around 18 per cent is going to come out in the first two years. It's accelerated the savings we were going to make over the four years."

Cllr Simmonds admitted it was going to be difficult to take money out of the existing budget. "We've already had £15.5m knocked out this year. We've got some considerable pressures," he said.

A report setting out the council's overall financial challenge was discussed by cabinet members on Monday, two weeks before the Government announces exactly how much KCC will get in grants. The report looks at "unavoidable" budget pressures and outlines expected reductions. Cllr Simmonds said the council had looked at every one of the hundreds of services it provided, how they were delivered, and what customers expected.

He said residents could have to start paying for some services that were previously paid for by the council – but it was too early to say which services would be hit.

"We need to look at things that people value and what things we can cut back on," he said.

"The reorganisation of the authority and how we carry out business will also help produce an economy. Levels of staffing are already being reduced by us not filling jobs or vacancies."

He stressed that children's social services, elderly provision and adult social services were a key priority for the council. KCC is currently considering whether to close a number of council-run care homes for elderly people.

"The number of referrals after the Baby P case have gone up because people are taking no chances, which puts KCC under tremendous pressure," Cllr Simmonds said.

"We've also got a rapidly-growing adult population. One of the most expensive things we do is elderly assessments to see if they qualify for support and how much they get."

Painful

"This is done by the Department For Work And Pensions, but they won't disclose the information to us, so we also have to do the assessments. If we could work together we could save money here."

Cllr Simmonds said district and borough councils would find the grant reductions "extremely painful" and admitted KCC was luckier due to its large size.

"If we can weather the next few years hopefully then we'll have smoother waters," he said. "Locally people are aware of the changes. Communities can help by looking at some of the things we do and help provide this on a smaller level. We have considerable voluntary input in Kent."

• To read the autumn budget statement, go to www.kent.gov.uk.

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Thursday 9th December
Lorrie & Bill

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Friday 10th December
Breed

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Saturday 11th December
Eyelash Guilt

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
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Saturday 11th December
The Fling

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Tuesday 14th December
Dave Paisley

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Thursday 16th December
Heroes

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
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Thursday 16th December
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DAY & NIGHT

Hospice trees of love

PILGRIMS Hospices are again carrying out the Trees of Love project.

Friends and family wishing to remember loved ones can add their names to a Christmas tree at each of the hospices in Canterbury, Ashford and Thanet. To complete a tag, pick up a leaflet at any Pilgrims Hospice, call 01227 782062, or go to www.pilgrimshospice.org.

Don't miss Aladdin

THE Granville Theatre in Ramsgate is presenting Aladdin this Christmas time. The panto runs from Saturday, December 11 to Monday, January 3.

Tickets start from £11 adults, £10 concessions. Call the box office on 01843 591750 for details and to book or visit www.granvilletheatre.com. Group booking and family deals are available.

Pupils join carol night

THE Whitstable Choral Society holds a Concert of Carols on Saturday, December 11.

It takes place at St Alphege Church, High Street, Whitstable at 7.30pm and features children from Blean Primary School as well as the society's singers.

Tickets are £7.50 adults, children £5 from www.whitstablechoral.org.uk, call 01227 750950 or on the door.

Players' festive cheer

THE Birchington Guild of Players holds a Christmas Night of entertainment.

It takes place at The Centre, Alpha Road, Birchington at 8pm on Friday, December 10, and will include songs, dancing, sketches and readings.

Festive food is served during the interval. Tickets are £5 from 01843 843687.

Composers showcased

THE first year of Sounds New International Composer Pyramid will end on Saturday, December 4.

The work of 12 composers will be performed at Augustine Hall, part of Canterbury Christ Church University new library, at 4pm.

The conductor is Gerry Cornelius, who has worked with the BBC Concert Orchestra, and the Welsh National Opera.

Day Out at the theatre

THE Kent Youth Theatre performs Our Day Out, the musical play by Willy Russell this month.

The show is at Kent College, Whitstable Road, Canterbury at 7.30pm on December 15, 16 and 17.

All seats are £5. Call the box office on 01227 730177 or email JustBigKids@kentouththeatre.co.uk. Visit www.kentouththeatre.co.uk for details.

Art and crafts on show

WORK from artists and makers across Thanet features in an exhibition, Dark Nights Bright Lights at Marine Studios, Albert Terrace, Margate, from December 3 to December 12.

The show is open Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm and on Saturday and Sunday, from 2pm to 5pm.



Take a walk on city's wild side

CANTERBURY GHOST TOURS

Ongoing

Start from Alberrys Wine Bar, St Margaret's Street, Canterbury

A BRUSH with the paranormal when he was young sparked John Hippisley's interest in ghosts, and it has continued into later life.

John leads the ghost walks which take place through the streets of Canterbury all year round.

The walks have fed John's interest over the years, but for him, the fascination started many years ago. He takes up the story.

"One night, when I was away at school in Goudhurst, my best friend Miles and I decided we would run away to Florida, as 13-year-old boys do, and I went to meet him at the bike sheds in the night but he never turned up.

"I waited until midnight and gave up and went up to bed. Then in the middle of the night, at about 4.30am, I was woken up by Miles, shaking me and telling me to get a

move on and to get up and come with him.

"I was fed up with it all by that time, and told him to go away, that we were supposed to leave at 9.30pm, not now, but he kept saying 'we gotta go, we gotta go'. I told him to go and send me a postcard and went back to sleep.

"Anyway, I just presumed he'd gone, and didn't think much of it until the next day when the police arrived at the school, and told us a boy had been killed after being hit by a truck.

"It turned out to be Miles, of course, and it had taken place on the A28 at 4.30am, when I was talking to him. He had actually left as planned on his own, without me and been killed. He had walked for miles and miles.

"I'm convinced it wasn't a dream, and when I met his father at the funeral he had had the same kind of experience. He'd also been woken up by Miles in the night, and by the time he'd gone out to follow him he'd vanished, and there was no sign of him.

"As well as me, other boys in our dormitory saw him and heard him that night. I believe it was what is known as a doppelganger, a crisis apparition that many people see. It is almost as if the deceased is given a short period to

visit their friends and loved ones before they are gone forever."

John says Canterbury has a rich history of ghostly goings-on to tell people about, and he has even written a book on the subject, entitled Haunted Canterbury.

The tours are full of those spooky tales mixed in with the city's rich history, and take about 90 minutes to complete.

All manner of spooky tales trip from John's tongue as he wanders the streets with his lantern, top hat and cape during the tours, that will send a shiver down your spine.

For a time, John ran them to raise money for the Friends of the Marlowe Theatre, and managed to raise £1,000 for the cause.

They begin at Alberrys wine bar and cost £9 for adults, £8 concessions and £7 for children. Deals for groups and tours that include a meal at a restaurant are also available.

John said: "At this time of year, when the nights are cold and dark, people's thoughts always turn more towards this sort of thing, so if you are interested then do come along."

For more information on the walks, or to book, visit www.canterburyghosttour.com.



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TOM BETTSEmail thomas.betts@kosmedia.co.uk**MY PASSION, SIZEN AND MORGLBI**

Sunday, December 5, Quarterhouse, Folkestone

IT'S metal night at the Quarterhouse, when these big-hitters roar into town.

It's the last night of a national tour, so all three bands will be wanting to finish with a flourish.

My Passion, nominated for Best British Newcomer at the 2010 Kerrang! Awards, are promoting their new album, and are renowned for their tight and energetic performances.

Morglbi, featuring one of the best guitar players in France, the virtuoso Christophe Godin, are also making a stir in hard rock circles.

Bassist Ivan Rougny also has a unique style of playing and

pushes the boundaries.

Sizen, meanwhile, have received rave reviews from Metal Hammer, Rock Sound, Big Cheese and Power Play, topped off by a 4 'K' review from Kerrang magazine for their debut album What Do You See?

As a one-off special, Sizen will be joined by Sally Jo, six-string metal violinist and Sizen Shadow Orchestra. Support for the three main acts comes from I.R.I.S and Colt 44.

Tickets are £8 in advance or £10 on the door. Call 01303 858500 or visit www.quarterhouse.co.uk to book. Over 16s only.

**CUT A SHINE WINTER HOEDOWN**

Saturday, December 4, Astor Theatre, Deal

SMUGGLERS Records Present an evening with their friends, associates and cronies.

On Saturday it's the Cut A Shine Collective Winter Hoedown, featuring soulgrass band Kidnap Alice.

The seven-piece, who hail from Hackney in London, blend soul, bluegrass, and old time influences to make their own special sound and to bridge the gap between vintage rhythm and blues and Appalachian mountain music.

They have played at Glastonbury, and the the LoveBox, Green Man and

Bestival festivals among others.

Featured are Joe Buiski on banjo, Joe Hymas on mandolin, Felix Vandersluis, Jerry Bloom on fiddle, Ben Gallon on guitar, Danimal Kuper on accordion and Alice Ballantine on vocals and guitar.

There'll even be a prize for the best redneck outfit, so grab a partner and swing on down to the Barn Dance.

Tickets are £8 in advance £10 on the door and the fun starts at 7.30pm.

Visit www.theastor.org for more information and to book, or call 01304 370220.

RUBBER BISCUIT'S HOOTENANNYFriday, December 31,
The Kings Hall, Beacon Hill, Herne Bay

SEE in the new year in style with one of Kent's top soul bands.

Rubber Biscuit are holding a holiday hootenanny to see out 2010 and see in 2011.

An evening of drinking, dancing and merry-making will make this one party not to be missed.

The band have been regulars on the South East's gig scene since 1992, and played all over the world.

The aim is to get everyone in the room up and dancing, with their infectiously energetic performances.

Having sold out Canterbury's Marlowe Theatre on a number of occasions, Rubber Biscuit has a deserved reputation for going that extra mile to offer something different to local music fans.

This year they have entertained



thousands at various gigs across the county and their Christmas shows at the King's Hall go down well.

The 500 capacity venue is usually full with a fantastic crowd, all keen to see what surprises the band has in store.

The band hope that the move to

New Year's Eve will generate an even greater party atmosphere and promise a night to remember – the perfect way to greet 2011.

Tickets are £15 each, doors open at 7.30pm. Book online at kingscaterers.co.uk or call 01227 373322.

**PINOCCHIO**Thursday, December 9 to December 27
Theatre Royal, Margate

A NEW family musical of the famous story of the wooden boy with the lengthening nose comes to Thanet for a lengthy run at the Theatre Royal.

This is a show full of warmth, wit and wonderful characters, stunning sets and fabulous costumes.

The old woodworker Geppetto decides to create a puppet of his own – an obedient and well-behaved son.

But Pinocchio has other ideas, and becomes caught up in a series of adventures that land him in trouble.

This full-scale mini-operetta comes from the same great team that brought you last year's hugely popular Snow Queen and the terrific Ali Baba.

There are no performances on December 19, 20, and 25. Tickets cost £14 for adults, £12.50 senior citizens, £10 children for the 10am and 1.30pm shows, but increase for the shows at 2pm, 5.30pm and 7pm shows. Family tickets (from £44 for two adults, two children) are available.

More details are available from the website at www.theatreroyal-margate.com or call the box office on 0845 1301786 or 01227 787787.

LYNNE HERAUD AND PAT TURNERWednesday, December 15,
The Chimney Boy, Faversham

FAVERSHAM Folk Club welcomes back the two performers with a fine folk pedigree.

The pair are two of the most experienced and established harmony singers on the folk scene and have a leaning towards traditional English material, but occasionally diversify and perform their own material and Victorian and Edwardian songs.

During the 1970s, Lynne Heraud sang as part of a successful duo with Sue Ashby when they performed at many major clubs and festivals in the UK.

In the early 1980s she sang with Frank Lee and John Lambert as Tom, Dick and Harry.

Lynne is also half of a very successful duo with Keith Kendrick, and they released a highly-acclaimed CD Stars in my Crown in 2001.

Pat sang for six years with the harmony group, Filigree, with Pete Cunningham and Chris and Roger Jeffreys. They recorded two albums and even released a single.

Doors open at 8pm. Entry is £5 for members, £6 for non-members, under 18s free.



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ATTRACTIVE black lady, 5ft 6ins, black hair, slim, kissable lips, likes walks, horse riding, go karts, seeks professional white male, 35-45, athletic, 5ft 11ins-6ft. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353897

BLACK female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male, 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382910

LADY 50, West Sussex, seeks generous romantic for discreet, special daytime fun, no strings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382870

BEAUTIFUL slim brunette, will try anything on, varied interests, seeks laid back male for friendship, good conversations and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353679 ☒

REAL party girl, blonde, 34, attractive and funny, looking for similar guy who also knows how to have a good time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353663 ☒

OUTGOING blonde, 29, big blue eyes, great personality, fun to be with, WLTM intelligent mature male for a loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353661 ☒

VERY attractive happy go lucky female, 37, long dark hair, lovely smile, seeks cool exciting guy to enjoy life to the full with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353659 ☒

OUTGOING blonde bombshell, 44, gorgeous green eyes, seeks caring male who is also looking for lots of fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353655 ☒

LOVELY green eyed brunette, creative and artistic, loves to feel the wind in her hair seeks inspirational male to end her loneliness. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353637 ☒

ATTRACTIVE petite blonde, baby blue eyes, many interests, seeks similar outgoing male to spend quality time with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353635 ☒

CURVY green eyed brunette, 45, easygoing and fun, looking to share precious moments with that special someone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353633 ☒

COME live with me, Medic, petite, stunning, long hair seeks very rich, tactile, generous gent. I will care for you forever. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351333

PENNY slim, sporty, attractive, excellent company, enjoys the outdoors, cycling, walks, sailing, the atre, travel, seeks intelligent, like-minded gent for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351273

GOOD looking, slim, funny, lovable female, 24, many interests, looking for similar genuine male for cuddles and cosy nights in/out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352121 ☒

VERY attractive feminine working girl, great personality, loves to laugh seeks well built, experienced guy for quality times together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352127 ☒

ROSEMARY 62, caring Christian, professional, divorced, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382496

GORGEOUS tall brunette, blue eyes, many fun interests looking for someone special to enjoy fun/new adventures with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352713 ☒

ROCKEFELLER 38, medium build, fair, funny, bubbly, likes conversation, seeks male for good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353359

TALL female, medium build, bubbly, chatty, likes nights in, cooking, days out, seeks interesting male for friendship, maybe more. Worthing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353537 ☒

VICKY attractive, kind, down to earth, black British, likes travel, writing, reading, cooking, socialising, seeks generous, good man who is family orientated. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353033

YOUNG black female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382706

CURVY young looking widow loves dancing, nights out, but would prefer cosy nights in with that special male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353483 ☒

SLIM blue eyed brunette, 48, loving and kind, hopeless romantic, likes pubs, nights in/out seeks similar romantic male to get to know. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353461 ☒

ELEGANT stylish blonde widow, young 59, very good company, looking for attractive, cultured, older male to share interests, good conversation and who knows. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353455 ☒

WARM hearted female, curves in all the right places, new to area, seeks intelligent male to share interests, friendship and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353419 ☒

LOVELY lady, 48, beautiful curves, many interests, just wants to meet an honest decent guy and make him happy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353417 ☒

DOWN to earth, slim brunette, curves in all the right places, looking for easygoing, fun guy for some relaxed fun times. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353415 ☒

60YR old female, seeks special N/S, non drinking gent, loving and caring for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353253 ☒

BERYL 70 plus, 5ft 6ins, slim, fair hair, green eyes, seeks gent who likes travel, theatre, sports, meals out. Hampshire. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353165 ☒

FEMALE 60's, likes music, reading, Grandchildren, WLTM honest, trustworthy gent 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352853 ☒

DISCO queen, fun loving, serene, black, attractive female, nice smile, 37, slim, lover of music, theatre, reading, seeks genuine, caring gent, 36-49, N/S to share life and laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815

CUDDLY bubbly female, 49, lovely personality, many interests WLTM nice man with similar interests for friendship first. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353453 ☒

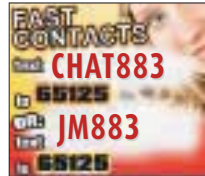
LEGGY brunette, young 50's, easygoing looking for excitement, likes nature, animals, nights out, seeks similar tall, solvent male for fun and laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353421 ☒

SIMPLY fabulous funky redhead, 39, down to earth, fit and active, seeks laid back, passionate guy to share red wine, good conversation, maybe more. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352711 ☒

EXOTIC curvy female, excellent cook, fit and active seeking mature white male to pamper and be looked after in return. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352705 ☒

ATTRACTIVE blue eyed blonde, 41, no ties, seeks someone easygoing and fun who can make life a bit more interesting. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352703 ☒

PETITE blonde, 39, seeks tall genuine fun to be with male to be happy and let her hair down with. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352677 ☒



TALL white guy, brown hair/eyes, 49, seeks female with good personality for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354113

MALE seeks female for serious relationship. Stratford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354095 ☒

MALE youthful 60's, slim, N/S, mild OCD, likes most things, seeks similar, attractive, genuine female, 55 plus for LTR. East Grinstead. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383004

DAVID 60, average build, likes sports, walks, cinema, meals out, nights in, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Hert. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352675 ☒

BLUE eyed male, 60's, slim, active, 5ft 5ins, solvent, likes socialising, drives, travel, seeks petite female for LTR. Burgess Hill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382996 ☒

SLIM white male, 47, young looks, likes cinema, walks, reading, seeks curvy, large female for LTR. Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353889

EASYGOING fun loving guy 6ft 2ins, mousey hair, blue/grey eyes, likes pubs, clubs, walks, motorbikes, seeks soul mate. Littlehampton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382948 ☒

ATTRACTIVE blond, blue eyed male, HIV positive, extremely genuine, sincere, GSOH, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere, Oriental/Black/Asian female. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353693

ADORABLE beauty, curvy, caring, down to earth, trained lawyer, seeks good man for friendship, companionship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351337

26YR old tall male, dark complexion, handsome, caring, seeks female, 18-40 for kisses, cuddles nights in/out and love. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354131 ☒

LYN young 50yr old lady, divorced, attractive, size 16, black hair, green eyes, no ties, dog, likes walks, meals out, nights in, socialising, seeks gent, 40-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350023

STUNNING blonde, feels life is for living looking for her Mr Right, 45-55, who can make her feel special. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350723 ☒

CURVY blonde, big blue eyes, many interests WLTM genuine male to make her laugh and brighten up her day. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350721 ☒

STUNNING slim green eyed blonde, fun to be with, likes nights out, looking for that special someone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350691 ☒

PRETTY blonde with lovely green eyes seeks male for good conversation and companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349901 ☒

AFFECTIONATE curvy green eyed brunette seeking fit active man to share new adventures with. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349919 ☒

MARGARET 69, 5ft 4ins, active, N/S, GSOH, likes keep fit, walks, meals out, nights in, holidays, seeks nice likeminded gent, 65-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349085 ☒

KAREN 51, smoker, many interests, seeks country loving guy, 35-45 who is fun, loving and caring. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382050 ☒

CHRIS 49, own home, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353977

GENUINE nice guy young 50's, romantic, tactile, solvent, GSOH, likes music, countryside, DIY, car boots, candlelit cuisine, seeks cuddly, attractive lady. Haslemere. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353843

LOCAL Andover male, seeks local Andover female, 30-50 for loving, lasting relationship. N/S with no children. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353787 ☒

MIKE 50, attractive, medium build, easygoing, likes a laugh, seeks female with similar disposition. Sutton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382882 ☒

TALL attractive, black male, seeks mature, white female for friendship. Haywards Heath. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382848 ☒

NICE guy 52, average build, seeks curvy female, 24-45 for LTR. Wembley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353355

PROFESSIONAL successful male, 45, 6ft, fit, adventurous, fun loving, romantic, seeks attractive, outgoing female to enjoy the good things in life. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353349

51YR old retired chef, 5ft 8ins, Irish/Irillian, down to earth, seeks petite female, any age/looks Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382806

DAVID 51, divorced, shy, 5ft 7ins, seeks female for friendship, 45 plus. Worthing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382784 ☒

FUNNY chatty 44yr old male, seeks special lady for special times. Cheam. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382534 ☒

GENUINE male, 39, fit, handsome, seeks female, 18-30 for fun, laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352235

SINGLE 40yr old male, sporty, dark features, good looking, seeks lonely female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352177 ☒

41YR old male, GSOH, seeks female for fun, company and maybe more. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352417

MALE 32, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks young female, 18-40, caring, outgoing for socialising and romance. Bognor Regis. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382682 ☒

KIND warm hearted 6ft 2ins, well travelled, compassionate, romantic male, 48, seeks loving, passionate, romantic lady for LTR. Storrington. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352793 ☒

ROGER 68, 5ft 11ins, N/S, romantic, GSOH, dependable, sincere, easygoing, seeks slim-medium build, attractive female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352669

6FT 2ins male, slim, N/S, brown hair/eyes, average looks, likes nights in/out, country pubs, animals, seeks similar lady for LTR. East Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382644 ☒

MICK 52, 6ft 1ins, honest, reliable, loyal, seeks similar female, 40-50. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382632 ☒

GOOD looking Asian male, professional, honest, reliable, fun, likes sports, travel, seeks attractive female for possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352665

YOUNG male, medium build, Indian, seeks older, adventurous, passionate lady, 40 plus for fun nights in with good food and wine. London/Herts. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353083 ☒

MALE seeks slim female, 38-48 with varied interests. S London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353017

SLIM 52yr old male, 5ft 9ins, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks similar aged female to share life together. Crawley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352865 ☒

T A L L white guy brown hair/eyes, 48, seeks female with good personality for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352837

LONELY male, 37, attractive, clean, 6ft, seeks beautiful, slim, bored female for intimate times, must drive. Swindon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352981 ☒

SOLVENT slim male, 5ft 10ins, fun, 50's, WLTM similar relaxed lady. Hampshire/Surrey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353435

MICHAEL 5ft 10ins, medium build, seeks sincere female with a bit of naughtiness. Reigate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353363 ☒

RUGGED good looking, dark haired male, young looking 50, fit, charismatic, intellectual, charming, seeks slim, petite female for LTR. Dulwich. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352999

SINGLE male, 34, seeks female for fun times, maybe more. 25-40. Surrey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382650 ☒

BARRY likes travel, culture, seeks fun, attractive female who is up for a laugh. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352165 ☒

ATTRACTIVE fit, mature male, seeks Asian/Oriental female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382370 ☒

SUGAR daddy available. Pete 57, 5ft 9ins, short dark hair, hazel eyes, own business, likes travel, seeks female to look after and spoil. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382376 ☒

TALL male, dark hair, good looking, smoker, likes sports, cinema, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382458 ☒

PAUL 5ft 11ins, 13st, fair hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, smart, muscular, fit, active, likes travel, music, theatre, cinema, meals out, seeks mature female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382466

WHITE male, young looks, new to area, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Hastings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382330 ☒

43YR old single dad, fit, slim, 6ft, dark hair, hazel eyes, tattoos, likes motor bikes, seeks gorgeous female, under 40 for LTR. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382262 ☒

EARLY 60's male, 5ft 8ins, blue eyes, GSOH, likes most things, seeks similar fun loving female, 55 plus for good times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349285

T A L L dark haired male, blue eyes, good looking, seeks attractive Princess with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382258 ☒

CARING affable man, teacher, 56, likes arts, rock, travel, seeks interesting, intelligent childless woman, for LTR and adventures. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347051 ☒

BRIAN 47, 5ft 9ins, medium build, attractive, N/S, likes pubs, meals out, cinema, seeks attractive, white female, 35-47 for LTR. East London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351499

SINGLE professional Indian male, 5ft 7ins, medium build, attractive, N/S, vegetarian, 50, young out-look, seeks female for relationship. Harrow. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351513

MALE 40, likes animals, walks, seeks female for happiness. Newbury. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351521 ☒

CARING white male, 61, N/S, many interests, seeks romantic, understanding black lady, 50-65, size 18 plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351255 ☒

Gay Seeking

ASSERTIVE male, 55, seeks sub male, 40-65. Redhill. Surrey/Sussex/Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381648

DISCREET gay male, attractive, 5ft 6ins, N/S, easygoing, submissive nature, seeks older assertive male for fun and friendship. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352387

38YR old male, bi curious, seeks likeminded male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382304 ☒

ATTRACTIVE tall, white hunk, non scene, straight acting, seeks older gent, 65 plus for mutual spoiling and pampering. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348543

TERRY seeks younger male for good times. Gosport. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352051 ☒

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One lucky winner will win a Hornby Blue Rapiet set, Scalextric digital lane change set and 12 visitor passes to have a day at the Hornby Visitor Centre at Margate for a fascinating journey through the history of Britain's best-loved toys.

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COMMUTER travel entered a new age during 2009 when the sleek and revolutionary Hitachi Class 395 entered service. This new state-of-the-art train with its twin power source motors quickly became the train of choice for those commuters who use the Southeastern service to London every day, saving those in the extremities of the service as much as 30 minutes or more of travel time.

The specially prepared three vehicle model in this set is resplendent in the distinctive blue livery of the prototype and is justifiably named the "Blue Rapiet". Additional RailRoad coaches are available to extend the train to a full six car unit. Both power and dummy cars have headlights that operate in the direction of travel. The track circuit fits easily on the 1600 x 1270cm MidiMat and by adding Hornby Track Packs and accessory packs can soon be developed into a very effective model railway layout.

Contents

- Driver Trailer (Motorised), • Driver Trailer (Non-Motorised), • Two open coaches, (NB. Both vehicles have non-working pantographs).
- Track: 3rd Radius Starter Oval, Track Pack A (with point and buffer stop), P9000VWall Plug Transformer, R8250 Train Controller, R8206 Power Track, Hornby MidiMat (1600 x 1270).



THIS set allows you to race up to four cars at the same time (two cars are provided), performing amazing, realistic overtaking and braking manoeuvres. You can switch lanes at the touch of a button to overtake or block your opponent.

This set includes everything you need to get started with Scalextric Digital – it features an oval circuit and comes supplied with two Digital Chip installed cars.

Additional digital cars are available or you can easily convert most standard cars to run on digital layouts.

The super resistant Nissan GT-R and Aston Martin DBR9 feature change pick-ups and the Magnatrax™ system to help them stay on the circuit.

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Nowhere to run as past comes gunning for assassin Clooney

■ BY DAMON SMITH

BASED on the Martin Booth novel *A Very Private Gentleman*, director Anton Corbijn's follow-up to the award-winning Ian Curtis biopic *Control* is a meticulously crafted portrait of a man of violence trying to escape his grim fate.

Predictably, the antihero can only outrun the past for so long before it catches up with him and demands bloodthirsty redemption.

George Clooney is on screen for almost every frame in the title role, his face etched with weariness as an assassin who has grown tired of always looking over his shoulder.

Without the star power of its leading man, *The American* would struggle to find an audience outside the arthouse circuit.

It's an unremittingly bleak and slow-burning study of solitude, epitomised by a remarkable and protracted sequence in which the titular character drives towards the white light at the end of a long tunnel.

Corbijn refuses to cut away from inside the car as the white light expands, illuminating the driver until the entire screen is filled with blinding white.

Following a bungled assassination attempt in Sweden, hitman Jack (George Clooney) decides to abandon the killing game once and for all. He phones handler Pavel (Johan Leysen), who suggests that Jack should lay low in the Italian town of Castelvecchio.

"Don't talk to anyone and, above all, don't make any friends. You used to know that," scolds Pavel.

The hit man drives to the remote community and on the spur of the moment disobeys orders and sets up camp in nearby Castel Del Monte.

By day, Jack keeps himself busy by constructing a custom-made weapon for mysterious client Mathilde (Thekla Reuten).



STATE OF THE UNION: Thekla Reuten as Mathilde and George Clooney as Jack in *The American*

By night, he enjoys the carnal delights of local prostitute, Clara (Violante Placido). As Jack's paranoia takes hold, he seeks counsel from local holy man, Father Benedetto (Paolo Bonacelli). "A man can be rich if he has God in his heart," contends the priest.

"I don't think God is interested in me, Father," mocks Jack, fearing he is well past the point of no return.

The American is an engrossing character

study, enlivened by explosions of violence including a night-time car chase that is as close as the film strays to an action set-piece.

Corbijn makes excellent use of the stunning European locations and keeps himself, and us, amused with interesting shots.

Thus, the throwaway image of a train arriving at a platform in Rome is captured as a reflection in one of the station display boards.

In the absence of bright colours in the film's

palette, Clooney sparks a dazzling screen chemistry, in very different ways, with Placido and Bonacelli, the latter wearing his dog collar with conviction.

"You are American. You think you can escape history," laments Father Benedetto.

As Jack discovers, there is no escape.

THE AMERICAN 
Certificate 15



PERIOD DRAMA: Andrew Buchan stars as the engaging barrister William Garrow



YOUR TV REVIEW

GARROW'S LAW: Sunday, 9pm, BBC1

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

IF you have been missing your weekly Sunday evening hit of high period drama after the conclusion of ITV's hit show *Downton Abbey*, you can now breathe easy.

The good old BBC has dutifully replaced *Downton*, in exactly the same 9pm pre-work stress busting slot, with another hour long ode to times past. But unlike ITV's genial offering, which peddles history as a side order to drama, frocks and country piles, *Garrow's Law* tells the story of seminal events in the criminal justice system.

It follows the life of William Garrow (Andrew Buchan), a dashing young barrister kicking up a storm in the Old Bailey with his progressive views about justice and equality.

It seems Garrow, who later went on to be a judge and solicitor general for England and Wales, was the man

who coined the phrase "innocent until proven guilty", used as a mantra in legal trials to this day. He also championed the adversarial system of justice still practised in courts today, where both the prosecution and the defence have their say in court.

As one would expect, *Garrow's Law* includes its fair share of court scenes with judges and barristers in full fig, as well as gasps and shouts from the public gallery rendered unlikely by their frequency and volume.

And they are great cases too – ones with shocking messages about the way justice was conducted and what used to be illegal.

In one case the captain of a slave ship is standing trial for insurance

fraud because he threw 50 of his slaves overboard on false pretences, but the act is not treated as murder.

But court does not dominate the programme. There is a love interest in the form of the delicious Lady Sarah (Lyndsey Marshal), pretty frocks, big houses and several other story lines to keep the interest going.

Sadly, *Garrow's Law* does not glide through the period as effortlessly as *Downton* did. The budget is clearly lower, the cast not as stellar and some of the sets come off a bit more *Blackadder* than *Bronte*. And as this is now the second series of *Garrow's Law*, a lot of back story is assumed in terms of the relationship between Garrow and Lady Sarah, which adds a mite of confusion.

But all in all, it is a fair replacement to *Downton* and far more educational to boot.

Reader Holidays

KOS 45



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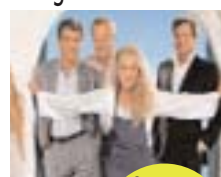
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- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna
- Return car ferry
- **FREE DRINKS** from 3.30pm to 11pm on Friday and 12noon to 11pm on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee



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ABTA Y0291

yourmusic

Christmas made for Bad Manners



BAD BOYS: Buster and the gang are bringing their Christmas tour to the Quarterhouse

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

MY PARENTS were wrong – bad manners should not be forcibly discouraged, rather actively encouraged.

Sure, talking with your mouth full is disgusting, talking while someone else is speaking is obnoxious and those animals who stubbornly refuse to punctuate their utterings with neither 'please' nor 'thankyou' deserve to be shot.

But bad manners are still a-ok in my book.

After all, how can you dislike one of the 1980s most widely-known two-tone acts, famed for hits such as Lip Up Fatty, My Girl Lollipop and the Can Can?

I'll accept that The Specials and Madness hold a larger chunk of the genre's place in my heart, but hearing Buster Bloodvessel and his boys never fails to lighten the mood of this hardened-hack.

So imagine my Christmas Day Scrooge epiphany-esque delight when I learned Bad Manners were playing a festive gig at The Quarterhouse in Folkestone next month.

I was overjoyed.

A Quarterhouse spokesman was equally buoyant.

He said: "Buster Bloodvessel and his band of merry men – BAD MANNERS are joining us as part of their Special Christmas Tours, and they're not leaving til you've skanked like Santa Claus.

"Having played a fair bit locally, the band's live support around here remains second-to-none, as proven by their gig at this years Lounge On The Farm festival, drawing a crowd just as big as that of the headline act Toots & the Maytals. And they put on just as good a show, if not better, to match it."

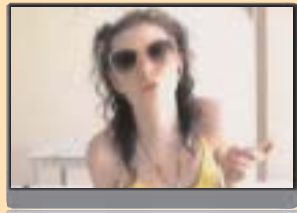
Support on the night comes from Max Splodge, hero of Splodgenessabounds and Two

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BAND PRACTICE: Zinta Egle and her band play Love With No Love



BEING POLITE: Singer Kayleigh Phillips performs her new song The Polite Way



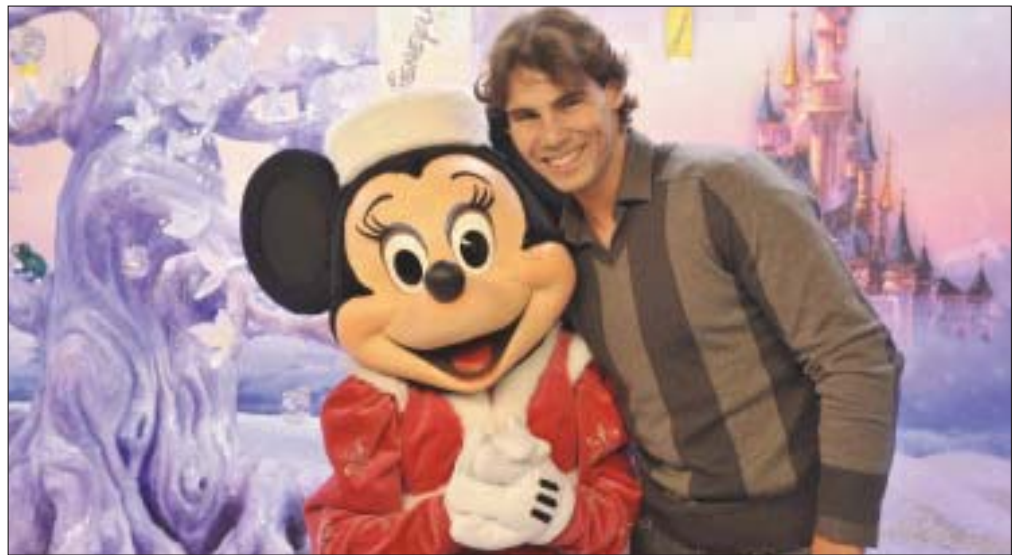
TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Craig Sheridan – Times Change (from Deal)
- 2 Don't Eat The Mic – Invaders Must Die (from Deal)
- 3 Gristlefridge – Unbreakable (from Whitstable)
- 4 Ron Bowdery – The Hooray Henries (New Eltham)
- 5 Vivid Nation – What Will Be (from Canterbury)

Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps fame, alongside a local ska band well on the up and some bonafide solid ska selectors filling in the gaps.

Bad Manners play The Quarterhouse on Wednesday, December 15.

Tickets cost £16 and can be purchased online at www.quarterhouse.co.uk.



BIG MOMENT: Tennis ace Rafa Nadal poses for a photograph with his hero, Minnie Mouse, on a recent visit to Disneyland Paris

yourgetaways

Christmas magic is bigger and better at Disneyland

■ BY TOM WILKINSON

FALLING snow, a parade of princesses and a lollipop the size of a dinner plate – my three-year-old thought her Christmas had come early at Disneyland Paris, and perhaps it had.

The giant resort stretches out the festive period from the first weekend in November to January, with a spectacular show of glitz, glamour and razzmatazz, enough to warm the heart of this old Scrooge.

It's impossible not to get carried away with the fun when you see it through the eyes of a mesmerised daughter, who could not stop beaming after meeting Mickey Mouse and Disney's newest heroine Rapunzel, whose movie is not even out yet.

Rosie and I travelled to Disneyland Paris for a weekend break from St Pancras International. Soon we were at Marne la Vallée station, practically on the doorstep of the two theme parks and retail village.

Our Hotel New York was a couple of minutes' walk away, and we swiftly checked in next to the huge Christmas tree in the lobby.

But that tree was dwarfed by the 24-metre tall, 24-tonne pine that Disney unveiled at the start of its Christmas celebrations.

The tree, in the square of Main Street USA, boasts almost 500 bulbs, and the star at the top is lit every night in a charming ceremony.

Disney doesn't really do darkness, as more than a million lights illuminate the Town Square, Main Street and Sleeping Beauty's Castle over Christmas.

Main Street is the venue for the Dreams of Christmas Parade, when all your favourite cartoon heroes pass before your eyes on floats, in an all-singing, all-dancing spectacular.

FACT FILE: FRANCE

Time difference	+One hour (GMT)
Capital	Paris
Language	French
Population	65.4 million
Currency	Euro
Religion	Christian

Tom Wilkinson was a guest of Disneyland Paris which offers three-day packages via Eurostar in December from £412 per adult and £178 per child (7-11), and £65 per child (4-5, travel only). Under-7s stay and play free until December 31. Package including two nights' B&B at Disney's Hotel New York and three-day hopper tickets for Disneyland Park and Walt Disney Studios Park. Same package at Disney's Hotel Santa Fe from £287 per adult, £178 per child. Disneyland Paris reservations: 0844 800 8111 and www.disneylandparis.com



It proved to be a highlight for my little one, and for hundreds if not thousands of others who lined the parade route to get a good view.

When the float carrying all the princesses, including her all-time favourites Jasmine (from Aladdin) and Ariel (from the Little Mermaid), arrived, Rosie's eyes were on stalks.

For Christmas, Santa has been invited to set up his workshop, and children drop off letters for him.

There was so much going on, it would be easy to miss something great. Luckily, Rosie was too small for some of the more scary rides, as we could never have crammed everything in.

When we weren't star-spotting – tennis ace Rafa Nadal was visiting when we were there – Rosie and I tackled as many rides as we could.

Her undoubted favourite was a gentle boat ride called It's A Small

World, which takes the visitor on a five-minute trip round the globe, populated with dancing dolls.

Over in the neighbouring Walt Disney Studios Park, Rosie loved the recent Slinky Dog Zigzag ride, for novice rollercoaster riders, and the Aladdin-themed Flying Carpets Over Agrabah, where you can make your carpet rise and fall as it spins.

Some rides get very busy, but quieten in the final hour of opening, as visitors with younger children leave early. Disney also uses a Thor Fastpass system which allows you to 'pre-book' a place on popular rides.

Disneyland Paris staff use both French and English and even the shows are bilingual.

As Santa waved us off, my daughter did not bat an eyelid when he wished us both a "Goodnight" and a "Bonne soiree".

Well, that's the magic of Disney.

MOTORS NEWS



Turbocharged Mondeo fuelling the fightback

FORD'S updated Mondeo line-up features a new hi-tech 1.6-litre turbocharged petrol EcoBoost engine.

It's part of a fightback by petrol against diesel through sporty performance, but with better economy and emissions than before.

This new 160PS (158bhp) 1.6 unit with a six-speed manual gearbox can average more than 40mpg and emits 158g CO2/km.

Its diesel rival, the 2.0TDCi, delivers more than 50mpg and 139g/km CO2, but offers little extra on company car tax or acceleration, and is £1,000 dearer.



Mazda hatches diesel option for New Year

MAZDA has given its family hatchback Mazda3 model a New Year boost, with power, emissions and economy improvements to the 1.6 diesel (from £16,505).

Arriving in January, this model meets more stringent emissions regulations and features a new six-speed manual gearbox.

It should further drive Dartford-based Mazda UK's ambitions in fleet sales.

Low emissions allow it to escape road tax in year one and incur just £30 a year thereafter. It also averages in the mid-60s for mpg.



Desirable Peugeot star coupé boosts ratings

PEUGEOT'S stunning RCZ Coupé has confirmed its desirability by outperforming used car valuations from market watchers at CAP.

Fifteen examples of the new sporting icon, launched this summer, averaged 103 per cent of expected valuations at auction.

Bidding to secure this desirable stock, Peugeot dealers even went to £23,500 for a flagship example – 111 per cent of the CAP forecast. This is no surprise; the RCZ is good to drive, economical and affordable – new or secondhand.



CONTENDER: Volvo's S60 will give BMW's 3-Series a run for its money in the driving department – and anyone along for the ride can luxuriate in its first-class cabin comforts

Proper driver's car your passengers will love too

ROAD TEST VOLVO S60

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

The Volvo is a driver's car, too, but a nicer car for passengers. And this also applies to cabin ambience, which is first class.

Refinement is generally good at all speeds and particularly on motorways, though Volvo's five-cylinder diesel sounded raucous under pressure in our high-spec SE Lux review car.

Nevertheless, the popular D5 is well-matched to the new S60 with the 202bhp output delivering loads of low-down power for both press-on and lazy motoring situations and helped by a light and well-spaced six-speed gearbox allowing an average mpg of well over 50.

Even the all-new five-cylinder 163bhp 2.0-litre D3 engine has to work hard to better that.

The new S60 may be specified with a ground-breaking pedestrian detection package, which can stop a collision with a pedestrian up to 21mph, and dramatically reduce speed above that, with potentially life-saving consequences, but will people really cough up an extra £1,350 for such a selfless feature?

Standard S60 kit is generous and includes electronic climate and cruise controls, colour screen for the 'infotainment' system, steering wheel audio controls, alloys and leather-clad wheel and gearshift.



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Used Cars

10 Plate Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD vRS 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Black Metallic with a Black Velour - Leather interior, 8,100 miles. £16,995

08 Plate Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD vRS 5-Dr Estate

Finished in Black Magic Metallic with a Black Velour - Leather interior, 35,111 miles. £13,995

07 Plate Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD Laurin & Klement Estate

Finished in Satin Grey Metallic with a Black Leather interior, 44,200 miles. £10,995

05 Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD Ambiente 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Satin Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 47,800 miles. £6,995

03 Plate Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Diamond Silver Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 91,200 miles. £3,995

59 Plate Skoda Yeti 2.0 TDI CR SE 5-Dr

Finished in Steel Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 21,068 miles. £15,495

58 Plate Skoda Roomster 1.9 TDI PD 3 5-Dr MPV

Finished in Brilliant Silver Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 11,000 miles. £10,795

09 Plate Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Estate

Finished in Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 10,700 miles. £9,495

58 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 13,200 miles. £6,995*

10 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Grey Cloth interior, 9,500 miles. £6,995

59 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

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57 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Flamenco Red Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 22,500 miles. £5,995

54 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.2 HTP (54 BHP) Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Dynamic Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 48,500 miles. £3,995*

Other Makes

59 Plate SEAT Leon 1.9 TDI S Emocion 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Red Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 11,300 miles. £13,495

51 Plate BMW 3 Series 2.5 325Ci 2-Dr Convertible

Finished in Titanium Silver Metallic with a Grey Leather interior, 44,300 miles. £9,795

2008 Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4-Door Saloon

Finished in Metallic Gunmetal Grey, Manual, 21,800 miles. was £7,995* **Now £6,995***

55 Plate Peugeot 407 SW 2.0 HDi 136 SE (Luxury)

Finished in Silver Metallic with a Black Leather interior, 44,500 miles. £7,995

56 Plate Honda Jazz 1.4i-DSI SE 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Ice Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 21,135 miles. £5,795

2006 Fiat Punto 1.2 Active 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Astral Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 41,430 miles. £4,495*

Citroen Berlingo 2.0 HDi Multispace Desire 5-Door Estate

Finished in Artic Steel Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 69,500 miles. £3,995

2006 Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Colorado Red with a Black Cloth interior, 56,500 miles. Was £3,995. **Now £3,295***

Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Club 16v 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Technical Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 86,500 miles. £2,295

52 Plate Toyota Yaris 1.0 16v VVT-i GS 5-Dr

Finished in Green Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 69,050 miles. £2,995

2002 Daewoo Tacuma 1.6 SE 5-Door MPV

Finished in Imperial Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 59,500 miles. £2,995, **Now £1,995***

*Correct at time of going to press.

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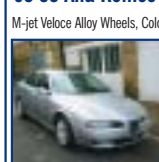
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PROPERTY NEWS

Estate agents welcome new licensing scheme

A NEW licensing scheme for estate agents is to be launched, which experts say will lead to a rise in standards in the business.

According to the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA), most estate agents are reputable, but anyone can start up as an estate agent in the UK without qualifications or formal checks.

The new scheme was described by housing minister, Grant Shapps, as a symbolic moment, while the NAEA said it hopes the scheme will represent honesty for agents.

The launch of the scheme means an estate agent will need to have the necessary level of professional indemnity insurance, be bound by the NAEA agents' rules of conduct and commit to undertaking 12 hours of training on the latest developments every year.

Those who are found to be breaking the rules could end up at a tribunal, or thrown out of the scheme.

Peter Bolton King, chief executive of the NAEA, said: "From today, estate agency in the UK is a two-tiered industry – those agents who are licensed and those who are not."

"I think the public will welcome the distinction, and I believe that this move will raise standards across the industry."

Elderly forced to sell up to pay for care homes

SOME 20,000 pensioners across the UK are being forced to sell their homes to pay for residential care every year.

According to a recent survey, the number of elderly property owners having to sell up so they can go into a care home stands at almost 60 per day; a third of those funding their own care end up without a house. This is an increase of 17 per cent since 2005.

The recent cuts to local authority budgets mean that this situation is unlikely to improve. Furthermore, FirstStop Advice states that care home fees have risen by more than 20 per cent over the past five years – making the current average £25,896.

Those who don't have savings or property to sell get their care paid for by the state.

This has sparked anger among many, who argue that the system is unfair and makes lifelong saving pointless, as well as meaning that families won't receive any inheritance.



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Make most of interest rates, before they rise

■ BY NICK AMES

INTEREST rates on mortgages are set to increase, and cheap mortgages are unlikely to stick around for long, according to the consultancy Ducaliam.

Research by Sainsbury's Home Insurance revealed that the cost of running a home had fallen by almost 14 per cent in the past two years, and now stands at around £8,059 a year.

Timothy Lambert, head of consulting at Ducaliam, said that most people would be rather surprised by the figures.

However, he said: "Lots of local authorities have frozen council tax and some boroughs such as Hammersmith & Fulham have actually lowered them, year on year."

Mr Lambert went on to say that the main reason was that mortgages were currently cheap for many, which "vastly sways" the statistics.

"But rates will rise over the course of the next few years as interest rates rise and cheaper products that run for a fixed period come to an end," he warned.

The annual cost of running a home, estimated by Sainsbury's Home Insurance, equates to £155 a week, or £22.08 a day, per household.

In 2008, household expenses were found to be almost £1,300 higher, at £9,324 a year.

Meanwhile the market continues to be uncertain.

Housebuilder Taylor Wimpey said it had experienced a homebuyer slowdown, as a result of the Government's spending cuts, which it claims has deterred potential buyers.

Its comments echo those of Persimmon, who said there was little evidence of the traditional autumn period, which usually sees families flock to new housing developments as the school summer holidays end.



However, Taylor Wimpey, which is the UK's second largest homebuilder by volume, said it expects annual profit at the higher end of estimates, boosted by "stable" trading, and an agreement reached on a new £950 million credit facility.

The company, which was formed by the merger of Taylor Woodrow and George Wimpey, said: "We expect to enter 2011 with a

solid order book, and we remain focused on our strategy of maximising margins and returns, rather than looking to accelerate volume growth."

Many housebuilders have expressed their concern that the ongoing lack of mortgage availability, particularly to first-time buyers, continues to be a "major obstacle" and is holding back the recovery of the housing market.

It's curtains for wasted energy

RESIDENTS of period properties are being told they can reduce their energy bills by closing their curtains or shutters at dusk.

Researchers claim it could be as effective as fitting double glazing and lead to significant savings.

The World Heritage Trust has been using thermal imaging cameras to show residents of old and new homes how best to cut their bills.

The project has demonstrated a traditional, decidedly low-tech approach can be highly effective.

Windows with the shutters and curtains

closed show up in the images in a deep blue colour, demonstrating little heat is escaping.

Windows with the shutters and curtains open burn bright, in oranges and reds, showing that much more heat and money is being wasted.

The team behind the project said other traditional techniques were valuable too, and anyone living in a period property should not overlook the importance of draught excluders.

Chiara Ronchini, energy efficiency officer for the trust, said: "We know that improving energy efficiency in historic buildings is very

important if we're to reduce carbon emissions and alleviate fuel poverty.

"There are issues, of course, with historic buildings, but they are so well designed that they just need a little push to make sure that they are performing as well as the most modern buildings.

"The thermal imaging exercise really proved that very simple measures, like closing shutters at night or using full-length curtains, can have a dramatic effect and make a dramatic improvement on the amount of heat being lost through the windows."

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF MOVING, TAKE A LOOK AT HOMES AND DEVELOPMENTS ACROSS THE COUNTY @ yourkenttv.co.uk

AUCTION

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Day Two - The Ramada Hotel & Resort, Maidstone - Wednesday, 15th December - 11am.

Day Three - The Hilton Brighton Metropole - Thursday, 16th December - 11am.

Day Three - The Legacy Plymouth International - Thursday, 16th December - 3pm.

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DOVER, EFFINGHAM CRESCENT



1 bed unfurnished garden flat, recently refurbished, entrance hallway, double bed, large open plan lounge/kitchen, large family bathroom with sep. shower cubicle, full gas central heating & rear garden. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £440.00 per Month / Deposit: £440.00

DOVER, SELBOURNE TERRACE



1 bed unfurnished flat close to town centre. Newly decorated, double bed, lounge, new fitted kitchen, bathroom, full gas central heating & on road parking. HOUSING BENEFIT ACCEPTED WITH A SUITABLE GUARANTOR. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. 2 MONTHS RENT IN ADVANCE REQUIRED IF ON HOUSING BENEFIT. Rent: £418.00 per Month / Deposit: £418.00

DOVER, CASTLE STREET



2 bed 2nd and 3rd floor maisonette, situated in the town centre. Recently refurbished, entrance hallway and landing, very large open plan lounge and kitchen. 1 double bed, 1 single bed, bathroom, electric heating. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £450.00 per Month / Deposit: £450.00

DOVER, DICKSON ROAD



2 bed unfurnished terraced house close to town centre. Recently redecorated throughout, 2 double beds, lounge, fitted kitchenette, downstairs bathroom, full gas central heating, small patio courtyard & on road parking. HOUSING BENEFIT ACCEPTED WITH A GUARANTOR. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £475.00 per Month / Deposit: £475.00

DOVER, SOUTH ROAD



3 bed unfurnished mid terraced house. Entrance hallway, large through lounge/diner, 2 double bed and 1 single, fitted kitchen, recently fitted bathroom suite with shower off taps, full gas central heating, d.g., rear garden & on road parking. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE END OF NOVEMBER. Rent: £575.00 per Month / Deposit: £575.00

DOVER, BEACONSFIELD ROAD



4 bed unfurnished mid terraced house. This family home consists of an entrance hallway, 3 double beds and 1 large single, large through lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, family size bathroom with sep. shower cubicle, boarded attic, small rear courtyard, full gas central heating, d.g. and on road parking. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £675.00 per Month / Deposit: £675.00

DOVER, FOLKESTONE ROAD



1 bed unfurnished flat within easy walking distance of town centre. It consists of large lounge, bathroom, double sized bed and access to a shared rear garden, small fitted kitchen, cupboard housing a washing machine and electric storage heating. HOUSING BENEFIT ACCEPTED WITH A GUARANTOR. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £325.00 per Month / Deposit: £325.00

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



DOVER, EFFINGHAM CRESCENT

1 bedroom newly refurbished first floor flat ideally situated for town centre, mainline railway station and recreational facilities. This flat has been finished to a high standard and comprises of entrance hallway, lounge, bedroom, brand new fitted kitchen to include gas hob and oven, bathroom with brand new suite, full gas central heating and new carpets fitted throughout. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £400.00 per Month / Deposit: £400.00

DOVER, PERCIVAL TERRACE



2 bed unfurnished mid terraced house. Newly decorated, entrance hallway, lounge with wooden flooring, 2 double beds with wc and wash basin off 2nd bed, fully fitted kitchen, bathroom with overhead electric shower, study, storage heating, d.g., rear garden and on road parking. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £550.00 per Month / Deposit: £550.00

KINGSNORTH, ASHFORD



4 bed furnished semi detached Grade II listed barn conversion. Entering into the hall, on one side is the dining room. The large lounge is opposite, kitchen & utility room. Patio doors from the kitchen lead to the rear garden area. Main bed with ensuite, 2nd bed double & 2 single beds. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. Rent: £1650.00 per Month / Deposit: £2000.00

DEAL, KINGSDOWN, GLEN ROAD



Newly decorated furnished ground floor annex. The open plan set out provides a fully fitted kitchen with electric cooker, fridge and freezer, lounge with sectioned off bedroom area, electric storage heating plus single radiator, full d.g., rear garden with off road parking. PROFESSIONAL WORKING PERSON ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £375.00 per Month / Deposit: £375.00

DOVER, THE GATEWAY



3 bed unfurnished 7th floor apartment. Newly decorated, entrance hallway, large lounge/diner with balcony, brand new fitted kitchen, 2 double beds and 1 single, bathroom, separate wc, security entry phone system, heated drying cupboard, full gas central heating, partial d.g. and use of garage. RENT INCLUDES HEATING AND HOT WATER. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE NOW. Rent: £675.00 per Month / Deposit: £675.00

DOVER, GLENFIELD ROAD



3 bed unfurnished mid terraced house. It comprises of entrance hallway, large lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 2 double beds with single running off 2nd bed, full gas central heating, d.g., rear garden and on road parking. WORKING PEOPLE ONLY. NO PETS. AVAILABLE SOON. Rent: £600.00 per Month / Deposit: £600.00

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Rhiannon Wragg, Advertisement Director, Archant Life South East,
email rhiannon.wragg@archant.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 3rd December 2010

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The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEOM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurse (Ashford)

1 Full-time and 1 Part-time position
Closing date for applications - Monday 6th December 2010

Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)
To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Debbie Burr - 01233 616201 Ext: 86202
For job description and application form please contact:
**Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEOM Hospital,
Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG**
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com
The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

PARENT CHAMPIONS

Parents Consortium, SPACE, Includes Us 2 and For Us 2 are four charities and community groups working across Kent to improve the lives of disabled children and their families.

Each of these charities is now looking to recruit a Parents Champion for 15 hours/week over 8 months for £17,750 p.a. pro rata. The post holders will work with parents and other agencies to improve child care for disabled children. Initially home based with job share/flexible hour options. Timely, independent travel is required to achieve the role.

Contact details for an application pack or to find out more about the post are given below. The closing date for all posts is mid day 10 December.

Parents Consortium: Dartford/Gravesham coverage.
Contact Alan Milner (01322 668501) or e-mail milnera@parentsconsortium.co.uk
Sunrise Parents Advisory Committee: Tonbridge/Tunbridge Wells/Sevenoaks coverage.
Contact Peter Nicholls (01892 530330) or e-mail peter.nicholls@vawk.org.uk
Includes us 2: Ashford/Shepway/Dover coverage.
Contact Gillian Wells (07970 928425) or Debs Aspland (07832 196 956)
both on IncludesUs2@hotmail.com.
Interviews 16 December.
For Us 2: Canterbury/Thanet/Swale coverage.
Contact Ivan O'Reilly (01227 741748), or e-mail Ivan.OReilly@childrensociety.org.uk.
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Staff Nurse (Margate)

Full-time position
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)
To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Liz Justice - 01843 234555 Ext: 62207
For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards
**East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEOM Hospital,
Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG**
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com
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Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 10th December 2010.

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk



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Ref: P0070

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CLOSING DATE: Wednesday 8 December 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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To advertise in this section **01303 817040**



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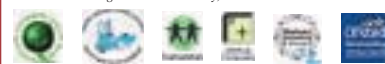
You will be a motivated, conscientious and a reliable person able to work effectively as a member of a team as well as individually. Experienced in a laboratory environment with school technician experience an advantage.

Offer of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Please contact Mrs J Harrison, Headteacher's PA for an application form and job description by telephoning: 01634 844008 or e-mail to harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

You may also wish to download an application and job description from our vacancy page on the school's website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

Closing Date: Wednesday, 8th December 2010



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Picture SIMON HARRIS



BRACE: Dover's Adam Birchall

Birchall brace sends Whites fans into raptures

ADAM Birchall fired Dover Athletic into the third round of the FA Cup with a second-half brace to beat League Two side Aldershot Town at a packed Crabble.

The Dover striker broke the deadlock shortly before the hour mark with a stunning 25-yard strike and followed it up with a 90th-minute penalty as the Whites marched into the next round and set up an away trip to Huddersfield Town.

After a 15 minute delay due to crowd congestion, it was the Conference South side that started brightest and defender Olly Schulz had the ball in the net on eight minutes, only for it to be ruled out for off-side.

The visitors hit back and forced a succession of corners, but it was the home side that were to have the

FOOTBALL

Dover Athletic 2 Aldershot Town 0

next best chance as Birchall was fed by Ben Hunt on the edge of the area, but the former Arsenal man saw his shot well saved by goalkeeper Jamie Young.

Aldershot soon settled into the tie and dominated the remainder of the half and the hosts were lucky to go in all-square at half-time, as former Reading midfielder Glen Little stung the palms of goalkeeper Ross Flitney with a fierce drive.

The Shots took the game to Dover at the start to the second-half and went close when Anthony Straker hit

an effort across Flitney, but also past the post.

The League Two side were forced to rue the missed opportunity when Birchall picked the ball up 25 yards from goal and dispatched an unstoppable shot past Young and into the back of the net. The goal had the Dover contingent among the 4,123 at Crabble off their seats.

The tie was settled in the final minute when the Whites were awarded a penalty for a handball by Clayton Fortune. Birchall made no mistake from the spot to notch his second of the game and his 22nd goal of the season as Dover claimed their second League Two scalp in this year's FA Cup campaign.

FOOTBALL

Picture ADY KERRY



NO WAY: Jim Parmenter says striker is not for sale

Parmenter: we're not a selling club

WHITES chairman Jim Parmenter says the club has no intention of selling hot shot striker Adam Birchall, insisting the former Arsenal man will be staying at Crabble.

Birchall is one of the hottest properties in non-league football and is expected to attract interest from clubs having hit 22 goals so far this season, including 11 in Dover's FA Cup campaign.

With interest in the 25-year-old set to skyrocket, Whites chairman Parmenter, who tied the forward down to a two-year contract last month, has reiterated that Dover are not a selling club.

He said: "Adam is a great guy and he has just signed a two-year extension to his contract because he loves the club and wants to stay here. He has found his football again which is fantastic for him."

"We are not a selling football club and one of these clubs that needs to sell every player that somebody offers something for as we are financially secure. We are more in the business of taking the club forward and progressing it."

"It doesn't mean ultimately that because someone scores goals in the FA Cup he is going to move on. Adam is our player and he likes it here and we don't need to sell him so as far as I'm concerned he stays at the club."

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Picture SIMON HARRIS

TRIUMPH: Dover celebrate after knocking League Two side Aldershot Town out of the FA Cup on Saturday, and now prepare for a third round trip to Huddersfield Town

Huddersfield next in line as Dover eye League One scalp

DOVER Athletic boss Martin Hayes says another FA Cup giant-killing is not out of the question after being drawn against League One's Huddersfield Town in the third round.

The Whites, who caused one of the shocks of the FA Cup second round with their 2-0 win against Aldershot Town on Saturday, were hoping to pull out a top Premier League side, but will instead travel to Huddersfield's Galpharm Stadium on the weekend of January 8.

Hayes and striker Adam Birchall, who scored a brace on Saturday, were both dreaming of a clash against their former club Arsenal and although slightly disappointed on missing out on a potentially money-spinning tie, the Whites manager is optimistic about his club's chances of causing another upset.

He said: "I think we all wanted to go and play a Premier League side so we were initially dis-

FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

appointed when we watched the draw and when you reach the third round everyone dreams of playing someone big. Huddersfield were probably disappointed as well as they would have been half hoping they would be playing a Premier League side too. However, Huddersfield are a good top six side in League One, so it should be a good game.

"It does provide us with another chance of a giant-killing and we will have to do our homework and learn from teams like Woking and FC United of Manchester, who have shown it is possible to cause League One sides problems."

"The crowd at Huddersfield may not be that big, but we could use that to our advantage as their professionals may not be used to playing in front of small crowds. We have shown what

we can do and if we reproduce that we have got a chance."

Hayes, who only took charge of the club at the start of the season, says although he enjoyed Saturday's cup win and the moment ranks among his best in his managerial career, his attention has already switched to Saturday, when his side face Woking in the bread and butter of Conference South football.

Hayes said: "It is certainly a highlight of my managerial career and I think it will only be surpassed if we can get promotion this season. Winning promotion proves that you are a good side over 42 games and not just five. We have now got to focus on the league as we have seven games before the cup tie and the 21 points would make our run-in easier and I want to beat Woking after losing the FA Trophy game."

"I think my favourite memory was just looking around at all the packed stands. It shows what the club can do and maybe we could have four or five games like this in the Conference if we get promoted next season."

Deal & Betteshanger face the drop after 15-point deduction

RUGBY

BY STEVE TERVET

A MASS brawl which led to a Deal & Betteshanger home game being abandoned has left the east Kent rugby club with a 15-point deduction.

Players, coaches and spectators were all involved in the clashes during the fixture against East Grinstead on October 30, prompting referee Steve Halligan to abandon the game.

An RFU disciplinary hearing decided both clubs should face identical penalties, with an additional 15-point deduction suspended until the end of next season.

The ruling said: "The events shown on the DVD footage cannot, and should not, be described as anything other than utterly shameful. They have no place in the game of rugby (or any sport) and offend against the heart of the game's ethos and the RFU's Core Values programme. Had such events occurred in the street, it is highly likely they would have led to criminal prosecution."

Both sides pleaded guilty to the charge of conduct prejudicial to the interests of the union and/or game.

Neither challenged Halligan's written report, which read: "In the space of only a few seconds, the scuffle engulfed all players, subs,



Picture: BOB HAYTON

RELEGATION WOES: Deal & Betteshanger's points deduction will leave the club facing a battle to stay up this season

coaching staff and spectators. I saw a D&B sub move past me becoming involved, EG subs involved, the EG coaches involved, I saw a person later identified as the D&B head coach involved and end up on the floor being punched and throwing punches and spectators pulling people away throwing punches."

The Deal & Betteshanger committee have not yet decided whether to appeal against the ruling, which would leave them deep in relegation trouble in London 2 South East. They have another week to decide, while East Grinstead

have said they are unlikely to appeal.

On the pitch an early exit from the Intermediate Cup left the side with a blank weekend, so they were unaffected by the cold snap.

Weather permitting they return to action this weekend with a trip to Brighton. The aim will be to build on a handsome 59-7 win against Purley John Fisher in their last outing, but if the points penalty stands they will need to maintain strong form until the end of the season to avoid relegation.

RUGBY



Picture: IOR KIPPO

FRUSTRATED: Invicta squad spent Saturday training

Freeze brings a halt to Invicta's good run

OF ALL the teams affected by the postponements throughout the region last weekend, few were as frustrated to be kicking their heels as Folkestone Invicta.

Following on from their midweek win at Margate, arguably the Seasiders' most impressive result of the campaign, confidence was high ahead of their scheduled meeting with Bury Town on Saturday.

But with the visitors reluctant to make a fruitless 270-mile round trip, they wanted an early decision on the state of the Buzzlines Stadium pitch. A 10am inspection found the surface very hard with more snow falling, leaving the official little option but to call the game off.

Invicta boss Neil Cugley understood the decision, but the weather improved to such an extent the squad were able to train with no problems in the afternoon.

He said: "To be fair to the referee at the time it was snowing heavily and the pitch wasn't playable. The shame was it would've been playable later on, if it had been a local game we would've got away with it. It was frustrating really, we are getting the squad back together now and some of the younger lads are starting to click a little bit now."

The break at least halted a run of five successive weeks where the small squad had been required to play twice a week.

With the few teams in action at the bottom unable to pick up wins on Saturday, Invicta remained just outside the relegation zone heading into last night's game against Carshalton Athletic.

There was some good news over the last few days, with Paul Jones due to resume training in the next fortnight after several weeks out with a groin problem.

Log on to www.yourshepway.co.uk for details of last night's game. Invicta visit Hastings United on Saturday.

FOOTBALL

Deal go in search of morale-boosting win

DEAL Town welcome Norton Sports to the Charles Sports Ground this weekend knowing defeat could suck them into the bottom-half of the Kent League.

Derek Hares's side were beaten by the weather on Saturday as their game at Sevenoaks was frozen off, although Town have still played more games than most of the sides around them.

Without an away win in the league this season, Norton arrive at Deal more in hope than expectation, but the home side have lost their last four and are equally in need of a boost.

The state of the Deal defence will be the greatest concern for Hares, whose side have conceded 23 goals already, a record only eclipsed by basement club Sporting Bengal United.

Norton ran out 4-1 winners when the sides met on the same ground in March.

LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

CONFERENCE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Braintree Town	16	10	3	3	+18	33
2 Bromley	16	9	6	1	+9	33
3 Welling United (-5)	17	10	3	4	+13	28
4 Farnborough	16	8	4	4	+9	28
5 Chesham City	14	8	3	3	+9	27
6 Dover Athletic	14	8	2	4	+10	26
7 Ebbsfleet United	14	7	5	2	+10	26
8 Bishop's Cleeve	17	7	2	8	-11	23
9 Havant & Waterlooville	13	6	4	3	+9	22
10 Eastleigh	15	6	4	5	+6	22
11 Weston-super-Mare	17	6	4	7	-7	22
12 Staines Town	16	5	6	5	+2	21
13 Woking	16	5	5	6	-4	20
14 Dorchester Town	16	5	4	7	-1	19
15 Hampton & Richmond Boro'	16	4	7	5	-4	19
16 Maidenhead United	15	5	3	7	-10	18
17 Dartford	15	3	6	6	-5	15
18 Basingstoke Town	14	4	3	7	-5	15
19 Lewes	17	3	3	11	-9	12
20 Thurrock	16	2	6	8	-10	12
21 St Albans City	16	1	7	8	-16	10
22 Boreham Wood	14	1	4	9	-13	7

RYMAN PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Sutton United	18	11	5	2	+17	38
2 Kingstonian	16	10	2	4	+12	32
3 Bury Town	17	9	5	3	+5	32
4 AFC Hornchurch	18	8	6	4	+4	30
5 Billerica Town	16	8	5	3	+6	29
6 Lowestoft Town	14	8	4	2	+13	28
7 Cray Wanderers	18	8	4	6	+12	28
8 Carshalton Athletic	16	8	3	5	+11	27
9 Concord Rangers	17	7	5	5	+4	26
10 Tonbridge Angels	17	7	4	6	+3	25
11 Canvey Island	17	6	6	5	+5	24
12 Hendon	13	5	2	6	+1	23
13 Margate	18	5	6	7	+1	21
14 Wealdstone	18	5	5	8	-3	20
15 Tooting & Mitcham United	19	5	5	9	-14	20
16 Hastings United	18	4	6	8	-4	18
17 Harrow Borough	15	5	3	7	-4	18
18 Folkestone Invicta	16	3	5	8	-14	14
19 Maidstone United	18	2	7	9	-13	13
20 Aveley	17	3	4	10	-14	13
21 Horsham	16	3	4	9	-17	13
22 Croydon Athletic	18	3	3	12	-24	12

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Herne Bay	13	7	5	1	+10	26
2 VCD Athletic	11	7	3	1	+7	24
3 Beckenham Town	11	7	2	2	+9	23
4 Erith Town	13	6	4	3	+8	22
5 Greenwich Borough	11	7	0	4	+17	21
6 Hythe Town	9	6	1	2	+10	19
7 Sevenoaks Town	12	5	1	6	-3	16
8 Deal Town	12	5	1	6	-7	16
9 Tunbridge Wells	9	4	3	2	+9	15
10 Norton Sports	11	2	6	3	-1	12
11 Fisher	11	3	2	6	-6	11
12 Corinthian	11	3	2	6	-8	11
13 Erith & Belvedere	8	3	1	4	-2	10
14 Holmesdale	13	2	4	7	-9	10

FIXTURES (Saturday):

CONFERENCE SOUTH: Dover Athletic v Woking; RYMAN PREMIER DIVISION: Hastings United v Folkestone Invicta; FA VASE THIRD ROUND: Leiston v Hythe Town; KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Deal Town v Norton Sports

Hythe make up for lost time as Cass double sees off Erith

FOOTBALL

Erith Town 0 Hythe Town 2

BRENDON Cass bagged a brace as Hythe Town made up valuable ground on all their rivals for the Kent League title.

Lengthy cup runs have left Scott Porter's side playing catch-up on the rest of the division, but they made the most of their game at Erith Town beating the weather on Saturday. With only one other game played, leaders Herne Bay dropped two points at Holmesdale and victory lifted Hythe to within seven points of top spot with four games in hand.

The visitors took time to find their feet and were thankful Michael Power drove a shot just wide with Erith's first good chance. Hythe went on to enjoy the clearest opportunities and took the lead on 33 minutes, when Cass flicked Greg Smith's cross into the top corner.

Erith were on the ropes as chances came and went either side of half-time, but the visitors were only assured of victory when Cass scored his second 14 minutes from time. Lee Winfield's corner was not properly cleared and when the ball came back into the area, Cass was on hand to score his 13th goal of the season.

Hythe return to cup action this weekend with a tough trip to Suffolk for an FA Vase third round tie with Leiston. Both teams enjoyed good runs in the FA Cup, with the Ridgeons Premier League side knocking out Folkestone Invicta before taking Dartford to



Picture: IOR KIPPO

BRACE: Brendon Cass scored two goals for Hythe

a replay.

A place in the last 32, when the competition becomes a nationwide draw, awaits the winners.



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